Of the Famous and Pleasant

HISTORY

OF

PARISMUS,

The Valiant and Renowned

Prince of *BOHEMIA.*

In Two Parts.

PART I. Containing his Triumphant Battels fought against the *Persians*, his Love to the Beautiful *LAURANA*, the great Dangers he passed in the *Island of Rocks*, and his strange Adventures in the *Desolate Island*.

PART II. Containing the Adventurous Travels, and Noble Chivalry of *Parismenos*, the *Knight of Fame*, with his Love to the Fair Princess *Angelica*, the *Lady of the Golden Tower*.

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LAURANA.

PARISMUS.

The Preface to the READER.

Courteous Reader,

IN this Book you will find ſuch Variety of excellent Paſſages, ſo taking and delightful, that I may well ſay it is a Garden of Pleaſure to refreſh the Mind, and recreate the Senſes; here the Conqueſts of Beauty, Valour, and Vertue are mixed and interwoven like Roſes, Lillies, and Geſſamine, that compoſe and enamel a fragrant Bower, each ſtriving which ſhall add moſt to your Contentment.

The Loves of the valiant *Pariſmus* and the beautiful *Laurana* are no leſs Strangers to the World, than thoſe of *Pariſmenos* and the fair *Angelica*; a Hiſtory it is that has found Acceptance with Perſons of all Degrees, whoſe Pages have been many times drowned with Ladies Tears, flowing from a tender Compaſſion to ſuffering Lovers, whoſe Vertues contended with their adverſe Fates and doubtful Fortunes, and, after long combating, broke thro' many Dangers, like the Sun, after a black and affrighting Tempeſt, ſhined clear again, to their Joy and Comfort.

The main Deſign and End of this Book, is, to encourage Vertue and true Magnanimity,

by the Examples of the chief Characters lively represented in it; and tho', at first sight, it appears to be only the History of *Parismus* and *Parismenos*, yet it contains various Histories of the Adventures of other renowned Knights, with their Passions and different Successes in Love and Arms; the destroying of Tyrants and Oppressors, and releuing the Distressed from their imminent Dangers, with the Satisfaction they received thereby and communicated to others.

To be brief, It contains whatever is desirable and pleasing of this nature, and cannot, for any thing I conceive, miss of a kind Entertainment, especially with the younger sort: and, to others, it may not be ungrateful, but antidote Melancholly and divert them at leasure Hours, By unbending their Cares, and dissipate the dulness of the Spirits, that too tedious a pursuit of Business brings upon them. So, no longer to detain you, I wish you as much Pleasure in Reading as I had in Writing it.

Parismus fam'd, and Parismenos *here,*
The Patterns of Heroick Vertue are;
They such Renown by Love and Arms have won,
As makes their Names to travel with the Sun;
All Nations read their Story with delight,
And give due Praises to them in their right;
Peruse it then, and you will with the rest,
Vote, of this kind, this Book to be the best.

The Famous and Renowned

HISTORY OF PARISMUS:

PART I.

CHAP. I.

How Parismus, Prince of Bohemia, arrived in Thessaly, and by the assistance of his Friend Ogilus got a sight of the incomparable Princess Laurana.

PArismus, Son and Heir apparent to the King of Bohemia, having at home given sufficient testimony of his Princely Courage, began now to think of manifesting his Valour abroad, and led especially by the Fame of Laurana, Heiress to the Crown

of Thessaly, and Daughter to Dionysius King thereof; he determined, with an honourable Retinue to visit the Court of Thebes, the Metropolis of that Country: Where, being received with all imaginable Courtesie and Magnificence, he resolved to spend some time, encouraging himself with secret hopes of enjoying the beloved (tho' yet unseen) Laurana. Nor was Parismus the only Person that entertained those groundless Hopes, for as the World was filled with the Reports, so was her Father's Court with Princes, that continually resorted thither in hopes of gaining her Affection; amongst whom was one Sicanus, Prince of Persia, who, with the King and Queen of Hungary, Prince of Sparta, and Lady Isabella, came thither about the same time, and upon the same account.

Dionysius, famous as well for the Hospitality of his Court, as the Beauty of his Daughter, entertain'd them with like Courtesie and Civility; but Laurana, who had observed the two Princes severally at their approach, conceived in her tender Heart, an inclination rather to like Parismus than Sicanus; not that she knew either their Business or their Qualities, much less their Names

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or of what Country they were; but seeing Parismus enter the Palace, being a Prince of comely Gesture, and Masculine Beauty, she could not refrain from calling Leda her Maid to the Chamber-window, to ask her Opinion concerning him; nor from speaking many things in commendation of so worthy a Personage.

No sooner had he withdrawn himself, and entred the Palace, but Laurana began insensibly to find in herself a sensible alteration; sometimes she bluth'd, as if she had been in a fault, and then presently she look'd pale, for fear of being discover'd; sometimes she sigh'd, which she endeavoured to drown in a cough, and sometimes studp'd, which she always put off with a smile: this diversity of Passions she no more knew how to prevent, than to guess from whence they came; but Leda being a more experienc'd Amorist, soon guess'd at the Distemper by the Symptoms, and though she seem'd to discern nothing, because she saw her Lady desir'd to have it so, yet she easily found all the Signs and Tokens of an ensuing Fit of Love.

Dionysius in the mean time entertaining the young Princes and Nobles with

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all the Splendor of his Court, (excepting the fair Laurana) gave all the satisfaction and content they could wish or imagine; only Parismus, fill'd with the expectation of so Divine a Creature, could take delight in none of all the costly Delicacies there provided: which, while the other Guests most lavishly wasted and devoured, he in the mean time cautiously fed himself even with the despair of seeing Laurana. However, he seemed to do like the rest, that so his Concernment might not be misconstrued, as an effect of his Dislike; nor truly construed, for an effect of his Love. Dinner ended, (with Parismus before it begun) the Company retired into the Gardens, which were most sumptuous and delightful, as well for Use as Ornament, and fraught with all manner of Fruits to please the Palate, as well as Flowers to gratifie the other Senses. Here, while the Nobles were diverting themselves according to their several inclinations, Parismus singling out his truly Friend Oristus, took him aside to a private and melancholly Walk in the Wilderness, and there, after some leading Questions about indifferent Matters, he came to ask him how he liked the Court of Dionysius; and whe-

whether those Gardens were not much more pleasant than any in Bohemia? &c. To all which Oristus having answer'd in such a manner as he thought might best please the Prince, he at last desired pardon of Parisinus, if he likewise might presume, without offence, to ask his Highness one innocent Question; to whom Parisinus replied, That an innocent Question could offend none but a churlish Disposition, though propounded by an Enemy or Stranger, much less from a Dear friend: Then, replied Oristus, is not my Lord in trouble of Mind, that he hath not yet enjoy'd the sight of his beloved Laurana? To whom Parisinus replied, 'My dear Oristus, thou art so 'much the Partaker of my Heart, that 'I can keep no Secret from thee; and 'when for a time I endeavour to be so 'unkind, my very self discovers that 'which I endeavour to conceal: 'Tis 'that, and only that which disquieteth me, 'and takes from the Beauty of those de'lightful Gardens, and, indeed, of every 'place where she is not, or, at least, not 'to be seen. Oristus perceiving him grow into a kind of amorous Extacy, desired him to mitigate his Passion, and he question'd not but by the Interest he had

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in the Lord Remus, (a great Favourite) to procure him, not only the Sight, but the Speech of the Admired Lady; which for the present gave him some satisfaction, being willing to believe what he so much desired, though at present he saw no way how it might probably be effected.

The Evening wasting with many Delightful and Princely Exercises, they began to think of repairing every one to their respective Lodgings, whither they were severally attended; and though the Apartment alotted for Parisius were more richly adorned than any of the rest, yet such was his Disquiet of Mind, that notwithstanding the Comfort Oristus gave him, he took little rest that Night, but spent the solitary hours in Contemplation of a Person he had never seen, and in framing for her such Features as were best pleasing to himself.

Early in the Morning, Dionysius, according to his usual custom, rose to go a Hunting; and visiting his Guests of chiefest Note, desired their Company; but Oristus, purposing to perform his Promise, stay'd behind with the Lord Remus, who invited him to take a walk in the Gardens, and view the Magnificent

rent Height, and Spacious Circumference of the Palace: which, when Oriſtus had ſufficiently viewed, but could never ſufficiently admire; as they were returning by the way of the Privy-garden, they were happily met by the Illuſtrious Laurana, who, with her Maid Leda, was coming to take the benefit of the Morning-air, at a time ſhe thought all the Strangers of the Court had been rode a Hunting: ſhe at firſt ſtarted at the ſight of the Grange Knight, but ſeeing him in the company of the Lord Remus, ſhe came with the greater confidence, and ſaid, 'I thought, my Lord, 'this fine Morning would certainly have 'drawn your Lordſhip into the Field, 'who have always been a profeſt Hunt'ſman. Truly, Madam, ſaid he, were 'I always ſure to be thus rewarded 'with a ſight of the Princeſs Laurana, I 'doubt I ſhould prove but a very lazy 'Huntſman: I confeſs, at this time, I 'deſign'd not my ſelf ſo great an Happi'neſs, but ſtay'd in civility to this 'Gentleman, who had otherwiſe been a'lone. Then, recommending Oriſtus to a kiſs of her fair Hand, ſhe modeſtly gave him a hearty Welcome to her Fa'ther's Court, and purſued her Walk.

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Orisius understanding her to be the Princess, thought himself made most happy by this Encounter; and being inform'd by the Lord Rhemus of her Apartment, he took particular notice thereof, and so incivility left the Princess to her private Cogitations.

The King and Train returning about Noon, Parismus, who took but small delight in the Pastime of the Morning, came with an amorous Impatience to enquire of Orisius what News, whether he had seen his fair One, or discovered here Apartment. But Orisius, having desired his Highness jestingly to be a little patient, and not to ask two Questions, before he had answered one, gave him a full account of all that had happened, with such high Commendations of the Princess, as had been Flattery of any Woman but herself. With what joyful earnestness Parismus heard him, let the Reader judge; and yet therewith no way satisfied, he almost envy'd even his dearest Friend so great an Happiness. However, being certified of her Lodging, he resolved within himself to walk there continually in hopes of blessing his Eyes with so Divine a Spectacle. In prosecution of which Design,

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taking a small Book out of his Pocket, and dismissing Oristus, he immediately repaired to the Tarras-walk, just under her Chamber; and there made several turns, casting an eye much oftner towards her Window, than towards the little Volume he had in his hand, as hoping indeed to see there much the fairer Impression of the two: Laurana by this time opening the Casement, upon some accidential Occasion, and not seing the Prince, gave him unawares the full view of her Face, which Sight he so eagerly injoyed, that he had almost lost himself in Admiration; as sometimes poor hunger-starv'd Mariners long detained from Food, have devoured their Meat, at first, so greedily that they have immediately perished therewith. But to keep the Prince from surfeiting, Laurana had no sooner espy'd there a strange Knight, but she immediately clapt to the Casement, and through the Crevices thereof gave herself the Satisfaction she denied her Lover, who, understanding by his Friend Oristus, that the King waited his Company at Dinner, was forced to quit the Tarras, and betake himself to a Banquet far less delightful than what he there enjoyed.

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The greatest part of Dinner-time he spent in Contemplation of his late happy Success in enjoying the Sight of his Beloved; the rest he imployed in contriving how he might come to the Speech of her; which, having modelled according to his Fancy, he rose as it were abruptly from the Table, and withdrawing himself to his Apartment, sent an Excuse to the King, by one of his Servants, desiring his Majesty's Gracious Pardon for his rude Departure, which he hoped the Indisposition of his Body would excuse. Dionysius, concern'd for the Prince's Sickness, as soon as Dinner was ended, went to give him a Visit, which Parismus suspecting, he set a Page at his Chamber-door, to acquaint his Majesty, or any else that should come there, that the Prince was in a Slumber, and desired not to be disturbed. This Excuse gave Dionysius satisfaction for the present; and Parismus opportunity to carry on the Design of seeing his Mistress unsuspected, which he effected in manner following:

CHAP.

CHAP. II.

How **Parismus** discovered his Love to **Laurana** at a Masque, who (to their great Disquiet) is promised by the King, her Father, in Marriage to his Rival **Sicanus**, Son to the Emperour of **Persia**; Letters that passed between **Parismus** and **Laurana**; and the Jealous Envy of **Sicanus**.

HAving understood from his Friend Oristus, by Information of the Lord Lemus, that this was Laurana's Birthday, and that the Queen Oliva had ordered a Royal Banquet to be prepared for the Entertainment of her Princely Guests, at which Laurana was to appear in publick (which she never did but upon such Occasions,) Parismus projected with Oristus, and some other of the Bohemian-Court, to entertain the Company with a Mask, hoping by that Device to attain to the Speech of the Incomparable Laurana; to which end he had counterfeited Sickness, to avoid suspicion. This Design being secretly carried on, Supper-time approach'd, which with the Sumptuousness of the Entertainment, and the Presence of the Adven-

red Laurana, gave infinite Satisfaction to the Partakers. And now the Company of the Bohemian Prince seem'd to be the only thing wanting to make their Happiness compleat, especially to the Inestimable Princess, who, not daring to make any Enquiry, wondred that among so many worthy Knights she could not espy the Princely Countenance of that gallant Person she had the same day seen walking in the Tarras. While she was in these Contemplations, notice was given, that a set of Maiquers were entring to divert that Royal Assembly which, after preparation made, were admitted accordingly; and entred in this manner;

First entred two Moors in white Satin, with Torches or Flambeaux, and after them as many Eunuchs in Cloaths of Gold, playing on Wind-musick; then appeared the Illustrious Parisinus, in a most beautiful Disguise, dancing a Corrabzand, next after him followed Orsus, and after him the Lord Remus with two other Knights of the Bohemian Court, all most richly apparelled, and performing their several Parts to admiration. But so infinitely surpassing was Parisinus, as well in the shape of his

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Body, as the excelency of his Motion, that he attracted the eyes of all Spectators, especially Her's whom he most regarded, the matchless Laurana's: To whom, in a submissive manner, he addressed himself, and took her out to dance: Lord Remus took out the Lady Isabella; Oristus another Spartan Lady, &c. so that all together dancing a Figure-dance, the resting-times and intervals Parismus employed in making himself known to the Lady of his Affections. The Masque ending with the Applause of every judicious and impartial Eye, Dionysius addreſs'd himself to the Masquers, returning them hearty Thanks for the Diversion they had given them: and desiring them to accept of a small Banquet his Daughter had prepared for them upon her Birth-day. This Parismus accepted of with his humble Thanks, not so much for the sake of the Banquet, as for Her that prepar'd it. And therefore, to keep the King no longer in suspence, he pull'd off his Vizard, and discovered himself to be the Bohemian Prince: Parismus! said the King, smiling, I am glad you are so soon recover'd: But now I see the Cause of your Distemper, and cease to wonder at your sudden Sickness and

Departure from Dinner. Which Parismus again excusing, and saluting the whole Company, they all applauded his Princely Behaviour, and Courteous Ingenuity, except the Malicious Sicanus, who immediately quitted the Room with an apparent shew of Dislike and Discontent.

The rest of the Company with-drawing into the Banquetting-house at the Request of Oliva, where they were again most magnificently treated with such Delicates as the Ingenuity of Laurana could invent; with which, tho' Parismus were highly pleased, he could not forbear looking very frequently upon Laurana; by which means, tho' he satisfied his own Curiosity, he robbed the poor Princess of many Opportunities of viewing her Parismus: Nevertheless, she had sometimes the luck to steal a glance, as she thought, undiscerned by any, tho' at the same time the whole Company observed it; which caused many Nobles, especially the Friends of Sicanus, to envy the private Kindness Laurana seem'd to have for the Prince of Bohemia: of which, when they were departed, every one began to make their several Construction. Thus were Parismus and Laurana

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mutually clamour'd each of other, as it were at first Interview, and when they got to their several Apartments, severately conspired to bring about the same End, viz. The farther Enjoyment of each others good Company; the Care of which Laurana committed to Leda, the Cabinet of her Secrets; and Parismus to his trusty Friend Oristus, with whom he consulted about the same matter.

Sicanus in the mean time fretting within himself to see the Princess Laurana shew more Favour to the Prince of Bohemia, than the Heir of Persia, openly declared to Dionysius, 'That the Cause of 'his coming was, to demand the Princess in Marriage; the King of Hungary, and Prince of Sparta, being come as Embassadors upon the same Account. To whom Dionysius made answer, 'That 'for his part he should be very glad to 'have his Daughter married to so Hopeful a Prince, and Himself ally'd to so Mighty an Emperor; promising withal, to propose the same to Laurana, who, he doubted not, would readily enough consent to so Honourable a Marriage. The Princess all this while little imagining what Mischief was plotting against her, spent the Night in contri-

bing which way she might again enjoy the sweet Society of her beloved Parismus; who had no less Disquiet in casting about how to come into the Company of his Laurana: But early in the Morning getting out of his Bed, and attiring himself in a careless, but comely Dress, he repaired again to the old Tarras walk, as the only Expedient he could think of to that purpose: He had not taken many turns, but Laurana had spied him through the Glass, and dispatching her Maid Leda upon some sleveless Errand into the Garden, she concluded Parismus would have something to say to her, which might be to her Satisfaction. And accordingly it fell out, for as Leda was gathering a Nosegay of the prettiest and choicest Flowers, Parismus saluted her with a courteous Good-morrow, and demanded how fared her Lady the Princess: who returning thanks for his kind Enquiry, satisfied him, that she was in good health. 'I pray you, Damsel, said he, present her with this Flower, and the Service of one Parismus, if it may not be too great a Presumption in me, nor too great a Trouble to yourself. 'I am confident, said Leda, no Message from your Highness will

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'ever be look'd upon as Presumption by 'the Princess, or farther Trouble to your 'unworthy Servant. Whereupon sliding into her hand a Present of no small Value, he dismissed her, and again betook himself to his Walk in expectation of the Event. Laurana having observed Parismus to give Leda a Paper, imagined it was for herself, and being impatient to see the contents, met her at the Stairfoot, and, suddenly breaking it open, she read these words:

Most excellent Madam,

IF the Contents of this Paper be a Presumption, it is the Excess of my Love that has occasion'd it, so that my Fault must be my Excuse; but if Love be a Fault, how great a Criminal is Parismus? Pardon me, Madam, that I dare be so confident once more to beg the Favour of Kissing your Royal Hand, at such a Time and Place as your Highness shall think most convenient; for, since the Unhappy Minute of your Departure, I have not enjoy'd the least thought to my Satisfaction, but the Remembrance of having once seen you, and the Resolution of ever being, Madam,

Your's at Command,

PARISMUS.

Laurana, glad of so fair an Opportunity, at the same time, to oblige a Man that loved her, and enjoy the Company of him she loved, thought no time like the present to give him an Answer; and observing him to walk under her Window, in seeming expectation thereof, sent him this short Reply:

Most Noble Prince,

I Look upon your Love to be like yourself, Honourable; and, if so, neither is it in itself a Fault, nor to tender it, Presumption: My Maid will tell you at what Time and Place you may expect to meet me, which is an Argument of the Confidence reposed in you, by

LAURANA.

Joyful at the Receipt of this welcome and unexpected Answer, Parismus thought himself amply recompenc'd for the Misfortune he conceived to himself in not having bless'd his Eyes with the Sight of the Angelical Laurana, and having humbly returned his Service by Leda, he made haste to his Friend Oritus, as well to acquaint him of the Happiness

pinels that had befallen him, as to avoid the Censure of suspicious Eyes, who might otherwise guess at his Design in walking under Laurana's Window; for, by this time, every body was stirring about the House; and Dionysius had sent for his Daughter in order to the fore-mentioned Match of Sicanus. Laurana coming with all Submission to know the Pleasure of her King and Father, was soon welcomed with the unwelcome News of Sicanus's Love, which Dionysius propos'd with all the seeming Advantages that could be imagined, but in so mild a manner, that he seemed not to use the Authority of a King, but the Indulgence of a Father; insomuch, that though the thing propos'd was most unwelcome to her Ears, she receiv'd the same with as obedient a Sweetness, as if she had been ready to grant her Consent: whereupon Dionysius, leaving Laurana to consider of it, went in person to Sicanus, and gave him all imaginable Encouragement, making that day a general Entertainment, on purpose that Sicanus might find an opportunity of expressing his Love to Laurana.

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Dinner being ready, it so fortun'd, that Parismus was seated just opposite to the Princess, and Sicanus a pretty way below her on the same side, so that while the one had the Opportunity of viewing her Perfections in their most resplendant Lustre, the other had only now and then a Side-view of her Face; and while Parismus entertain'd her with pleasing (but common) Discourse, Sicanus was so imprudent to imagine he had been making Love. Thus did his Gall boyl within him for the Malice he bare to Parismus, against whom he vow'd perpetual Enmity from that very Hour. Nevertheless, after Dinner, by the King's means, he found an Opportunity of discoursing Laurana, and manifesting his Passion after the best manner he could; but so short it came of that Vigour and Sincerity she discerned in the Love of Parismus, that, in spight of her courteous and obliging Nature, she was forced to receive it with a civil Indifference, and to quit his Company in a manner little better than scornful.

Eliz Bosch her Book

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

How Sicanus hired three Tartarians to Murther Parismus, who, treacherously setting upon him in a Wood, left him for Dead, buried in Leaves and Moss; the Grief for his Loss, with the Discovery of the Treason; Sicanus's Flight; Winuphus, as a Pilgrim, travels to Bohemia, and, at last, declares himself to Parismus's Father.

PArismus, little imagining what had past, began with some Impatience to expect the happy Hour of Laurana's Appointment, which being come, and the two Lovers met accordingly, we will leave them in the Arbour in mutual (but honourable) Embraces, and speak a little of the Malice and Treason of Sicanus, who, the same Evening, calling to him three Tartarians of his Vassalage, after a great Injunction of Secrecy, and Promise of Reward, made them promise to kill Parismus at a time they should find most convenient, which he doubted not to bring to pass in few days. All things being agreed upon, Sicanus betook himself to rest, and poor Parismus having by this time taken his un-

unwelcome leave of Laurana, repaired likewise to his Chamber; where, having taken Rest proportionable to the Comfort he received from the Princess, he was ready with the earliest the next Morning to go a Hawking, it being a Match of Sicanus's making on purpose to draw him into the Field: but the Morning proving somewhat hazy, and unfit for that kind of Exercise, most of the Company would have put off the Match till another day; but so unfortunate was Sicanus, that in complaisance to his humour they must go, tho' many of them (especially Parismus) much against their wills: they had but little Pastime all the Morning, till at last springing an Eye of Pheasants in a large Champaign, they slew a Cast of Gosshawks, one of which immediately took a young Pult at the Pounce, the other undertaking the old Hen, flew her into a large Wood, at a great distance under the Wind; this none observed but Parismus, who rode upon speed, and was followed by the Tartarians; who, taking that opportunity, unarm'd as he was, and dismounted in the thickest of the Wood, fell upon him, and gave him many Wounds, one of which, in humane reason, had been

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enough to have destroyed the stoutest heart breathing; at last concluding him fully dead, they buried him with Leaves and Moss, and return'd unsuspected to the Company.

Their Sport being now past the best, and even then not good, the King began to invite them homewards, and missing Parismus, wonder'd where he might be; but all concluding him driven to the Court by stress of Weather, for the present they made no further search: nevertheless, Orillus's Heart misgave him lest some mischance might have befallen him, so that coming to the Palace, and not hearing the least News of him, he would not stay to Dine, but, with the rest of the Bohemian Knights, immediately posted every way in quest of their Lord and Master; insomuch that the whole City of Thebes rung of the absence of Parismus: Night came, and Orillus with the other Knights return'd, but no News of Parismus; whereupon, after three days search, finding his Horse loose upon the Plains of Pharsalia, they all give him over for lost. How dreadfully this News sounded in the Ears of the tender-hearted Princess, let any Reader judge who hath

hath but read of the Vertues of Laura
na, and the Merits of Parismus: Ah
Leda, said she, never to love but once
and to be thus cross'd, and that so soon
unhappy Laurana. More she said to the
same purpose, that is, to none at all
for Parismus was neither to be re-call'd
by the Complaints of his Laurana, no
the Endeavours of Oristus; so that in
stead of Mirth and Jollity, nothing but
Grief and Melancholly now filled the
Thessalian Court.

Sicanus, the bloody Author of all this
Villany, dissembled as much grief for
the loss of Parismus as any of the rest
and, having rewarded the barbarous
Tartarians with a Thousand Crowns
he began to think himself as secure
from discovery, as he was free from
suspicion; but so it happened, that the
Villains, disagreeing about dividing
the Money, one of them struck the o
ther so mortal a stroke, that in short time
he died thereof; but upon his Death
bed confessed to Oristus the manner of
Parismus's end; as also, that himself
with two others, were hired by Sicanus
to that purpose. Oristus repaired im
mediately to Sicanus, and, in presence of
the King, taxed him with his Trea
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chery; to which having little to say, he immediately drew a Dagger, and had like to have slain his just Accuser; whereupon there grew a Tumult betwixt the Persian and Bohemian Knights, which Dionysius himself had much ado to appease. At last, Sicanus, betwixt fear and shame, having lost three of his Followers in the Skirmish, quitted the Court, and fled into his own Country, resolving to return with Power, and demand the Lady, he had not Rhetorick enough to perswade.

Dionysius putting all things together, and considering the slender Account he should be able to give the King of Bohemia, for the Murder of Parismus, in suffering the Author thereof to escape out of his Court, took upon him the Habit of a Pilgrim, and fled disguised into Bohemia, to find in what manner the King resented the Death of his Son. Hence began new Troubles in the Court of Thebes; for, missing the King at Dinner, Olivia sent Messengers every way to seek him, who many times met him, but could never find him, for they enquired for him even of himself. Dionysius, after some days, arriving in Bohemia, took him a poor Lodging

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ing neer the Court, whither he daily reſorted, and heard sad Complaints for the loſs of Pariſmus, but ſtill with reſpect to the Court of Thebes, and the Hoſpitality of Dionyſius. But after ſome days, being miſtruſted by his Landlord for ſome greater perſon than he appeared, it was thought fit to acquaint the Secretary therewith, who, imagining he might be ſome Spy, cauſed him to be brought before the King. Whereupon, deſiring Audience in private, he was forced to unboſome himſelf to his Majeſty, declaring his great Sorrow for the Death of Pariſmus, and deſiring his Majeſty's gracious aſſiſtance in revenging ſo horrid a Murder upon Sicanus, the Author thereof.

The King of Bohemia, having recovered himſelf out of the Surprize he was in at the firſt, embraced Dionyſius, and promiſed him his utmoſt aſſiſtance, whereupon he was prevailed with to ſtay in Bohemia certain days.

Eliz: Birch

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

Sicanus invades Thessaly: The King of Bohemia and Hungary come to relieve it. The wonderful Exploits of the Black Knight. The Fortune to the War referr'd to a Combat, which the Black Knight, by Letter, promises to undertake, on the behalf of Laurana.

Sicanus being return'd into Persia, complained of divers Injuries and Affronts offer'd him in the Court of Dionysius, whence he hardly escaped with the loss of three of his Attendants; whereupon he desired the King his Father to lay by Forces, and to go against Dionysius, to revenge the Wrong he had done him. The King, giving credit to Sicanus, and jealous of the Honour of Persia, called to him the Aid of divers contributary Princes, and raised a mighty Army, consisting of near two hundred thousand Men, which he soon shipp'd in a vast Navy, and landed upon the Confines of Thessaly.

News thereof being brought to the Queen by a poor Fisherman that was broad at Sea, she was in sad distress, and committed the care of her Kingdom,

during the absence of Dionysius, to the Lord Remus, who, with the Train-bands, and Country-troops, made what haste he could to resist them, and so ordered the matter, that, e'er they could land to hast an Army, he had slain near twenty thousand of them. This Success encouraged him to hope for a greater Victory, yet, nevertheless, he durst not stand them Battel, but made an honourable retreat towards the City, while the Persians encamp'd in the Plains of Pharsalia; the next day they approach'd and begirt the City of Thebes on every side, laying close Siege thereto, and resolved, either by Famine or Storm, to force them to a Surrender.

Oliva, Laurana, and the rest, with swoln Eyes and a heavy Heart, beholding the Murderer of Parisius, and the Author of Dionysius's absence, as it were in triumph before the Walls, were uttering sad Complaints of their miserable Estate, when behold a Knight in Black Armour (whom therefore they termed the Black Knight) came out in full carriet, and waving his Sword thrice over his head, dared the whole Army of Persia to single combat. Wherein he was successful, even to admiration: for, after

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a gallant overthrow of two Persians, Horse and all, he was the third time encountred by one Bruster, a huge proportioned Man, and the Champion of Persia, who met the Black Knight with such violence, that they shivered their Launces, and forced him to quit one of his Stirrops, while Bruster himself was beaten back upon his Horse's Crupper. No sooner had they recovered their Seats, but both drew their Swords, and began a very fierce Combat: which, after a sharp dispute, ended in conquest on the Black Knight's side, for Bruster, having lost the use of his Sword-arm, turned tail and fled towards the Camp, which so amazed Sicamus and all the Persians, that they esteemed the Black Knight to be rather a Devil than a Man, seeing that after three such dangerous Combats, he stood unmoved, brandishing his Sword, and bidding defiance to Persia.

On the other side, the Queen and Princess seeing what Wonders he had done in their behalf, not knowing of whence he was, sent a Page to invite him into the Camp; but he returning his Duty and Service, especially to the Princess, courteously refused their Invitations,

for Reasons he might possibly live to declare by word of mouth. This Message being return'd, their Wonder encreas'd who this Black Knight should be, but guessing, could no way add to their satisfaction, since none could resolve them tho' they should happen to guess the right.

The next day there was News of the Arrival of the King of Bohemia, King of Hungary, and Prince of Sparta, who being severally incensed with the hatefulness of Sicanus's Treachery, came with fresh Supplies to the Succour of Thebes, whereupon, both the Persians and the Thessalians foreseeing great Slaughter like to ensue, they drew up their several Armies in Battalia, and came to a Parley, the event of which was, to decide the Controversie by Combat of three Knights of either side, upon condition, that if the Persian Knights overcame, then was Dionysius to deliver up his fair Daughter in Marriage to Sicanus, and himself became subject to the Persian Crown; but if the Thessalian Knights got the better, then were the Persians immediately to quit the Siege, and Sicanus upon his Honour to declare what he knew concerning the Death of Parismus.

These

These Articles drawn up and agreed to on both sides, there were twenty days allowed for preparing every thing in readiness against the Day of Combat, and in the mean time a Cruce made, that no Acts of Hostility might be offered, but such as were voluntary.

During this Interval, several Feats of Arms were performed daily at Tilts and Turnaments between the two Armies, which afforded Pastime to the Ladies of the Court, who took great delight in beholding the activity and success of the Black Knight: but, at last, it so happened, that one Pollipus of the Persian Forces, riding up to the Black Knight, and couching his Launce, gave him fair warning to receive him, which, contrary to every bodies expectation, he refused to do, but turned his Horse-head short about; Pollipus wondring at his refusal, resolved to know the cause, but, because he would not be seen to commune with an Enemy in private, he watch'd his opportunity till the Evening, at which time, seeing him riding out of the Field, he made up to him, and desired to know the reason he refused him the same Pastime he had vouchsafed other Knights? Because (said he) you

wear the Armour of Pollipus of Phrygia, my truſty Friend. That Pollipus, ſaid he, am I, who only beg to know, how I come to deſerve ſo honourable a Title? and who you are that vouchſafe it me? For that, ſaid the Black Knight, it may be time enough anon; in the mean time, if you pleaſe to partake with me in my poor Quarters, perhaps I may communicate to you ſomething worth your knowledge, tho' I can entertain you with nothing worthy your acceptance. Of which Invitation Pollipus willingly accepted, partly to be ſatisfied who it might be, but chiefly for the Honour he bore him, and the delight he took in his Company.

In the mean time the Theban Court rung with joy for the return of Dionyſius, who by this time was entered with the King of Bohemia, Hungary, and Prince of Sparta, whom he there entertain'd moſt ſplendidly, conſulting with them about erecting Scaffolds, and making other Preparations againſt the Day of Combat. And while they were propoſing Lord Remus, Oriſius, and others, for the Combatants, a comely Virgin, named Dina, arrived at the Court, richly attired like a Foreſt Nymph, and bearing

ing in her hand an Escutcheon, whereon was the lively Portraiture of a dying Knight, wounded by Slaves and buried in a Wood. Being admitted into the presence, she humbly did her Obeysance, and said she had a Message to deliver to the Princess Lauana: being readily call'd, she was presented with the Escutcheon, upon which were engraved these Verses:

Since Victory on Vertue still attends,
Doubt not, fair Princess, of successful [Friends;
To a strange Knight, revenge of right be- [longs,
As well for yours, as your **Parismus** [wrongs;
Sent by the God of Love to end the strife,
And raise the dead **Parismus** unto life.

Having again and again perus'd these mystical Lines, she knew not what Construction to put upon them, or what Answer readily to return. But so generously likes the Offer, that in civility she could do no less than accept of him for her Champion, tho' he promised such Impossibilities. Therefore, desiring the fair Messenger to return the Knight un-

known her humble Thanks for the tender of his Service, ſhe wiſhed her, with a rich Scarf, to be preſented to the Knight, and a coſtly Jewel for her ſelf. Dina being gone, left the Court full of Joy for the News ſhe brought, and of Wonder, who this Knight ſhould be that had ſo nobly undertaken the Princeſs's Quarrel. However, in civility, they ſcorned to watch whither ſhe went, but reſolved, with patience, to expect the Iſſue.

CHAP. V.

The dreadful Battel between the ſix Knights, wherein the Black Knight and his Party obtain'd the Victory; and diſcovers himſelf to be Pariſmus, wonderfully preſerv'd by the Out-laws.

THe time appointed being come, and as well the Perſian as Theſſalian Nobles being ſeated upon ſeveral Scaffolds, in equal expectation of Succeſs, the Knights of Perſia entered the Liſts, the firſt of whom was the valiant Zoilus, attired all in Red, and mounted upon a Sorrel Steed; then the two valiant Brethren of Bruſter, Brandor, and Ramon, came galloping in ſo triumphant

phant a manner, as if they had already been victorious: several times they rode about the Lists, and wondred to see no Enemy at hand; whereupon the Persians began to give a mighty Shout, which so dismayed the Thessalians, they knew not what to say, but began to think the Message brought by Dina, to have been a Trick put upon them by the Enemy. At last, after near an Hour's expectation, they beheld three Knights in silver'd Armour coming towards them upon a Hand-gallop, who soon entered the Lists, and declared for the Thessalians. Their Apparel and Plumes were all white, their Staves, Caparisons and Furniture all alike, without the least distinction, save that one of them had on the Scarf Laurana sent him, and was therefore called the Princess's Champion.

Dionysius, on the one hand, descending from his Chair of State, gave them thanks for their readiness to engage in his Quarrel, and promised great Rewards, if it so pleased the Gods to grant them Victory. The Knight with the Scarf, on the other hand, declaring the great delight he took in so honourable a Cause, vowed, that could he be so

for-

fortunate to serve the Princess Laurana, the Honour gained thereby would be a greater Reward than the Crown of Thessaly; these Ceremonies being pass'd, and the King reinstated, the Trumpets sounded a Charge, and the Combat began. The Knight with the Scarf encountred Zoilus; Pollipus, Brandor; and the Out-law, Ramon; amongst whom was shewn as much Courage and Agility as could be expected, their Spears being all shiver'd at the first on set, they presently drew, and dealt about such fierce and fatal blows, that in short time the Out-law fell dead from his Horse, whereat the Persians began a great shout, which they had no sooner ended, but Ramon coming to the assistance of Zoilus, had the misfortune to be run clean through the throat, and died immediately; Pollipus and Brandor fought a long time upon equal terms, but the Knight with the Scarf had much the advantage of Zoilus, who summoning all his strength, he at last smote with such fury, that he fell from his Horse, whereupon the Assembly gave so great a shout, that the Earth seem'd to quake, for there being two of the Thessalians left to one of the Persians, the Victory was adjudged to the Thessalians.

Here-

Hereupon the King of Persia, according to agreement, commanded his Army immediately to withdraw, and Sicanus, upon his Honour, to declare the truth of Parisius, according to the best of his knowledge: Who thereupon replyd, By the Reverence I owe to my Lord and Father, with the rest of this Honourable Assembly, I denounce him for a Villain and a Traytor, that does accuse me for the Murder of Parisius; for, by all the Powers of Heaven, I know nothing thereof, nor have been any ways accessary thereto. In like Reverence to this Honourable Assembly, said the Knight in the Scarf, I return that Villain and Traytor upon thy self; for that thou didst hire three Tartarians to murder him, who, as he was a Hawking, set upon him in a Wood, and in barbarous manner run him in several places through the Body, of which I my self am witness, who found him in that deplorable condition, all which I stand ready to justifie; and therefore, as thou art a Knight and honoured Arms, shew thy Innocence by thy Courage. Sicanus, enraged hereat, seemingly accepted of the Challenge, and withdrew to prepare him-

himself: In the mean time the Thessalian Nobles, especially the Princess Laurana, considering the Wounds he had received, entreated him not to engage in a second Combat. To whom he replyed, 'Madam, if it be your Highness's pleasure, that the Wrongs of Parismus shall 'go unrevenged, I most humbly submit; but I know, Madam, you are 'more generous, and therefore must beg 'your pardon. Whereupon, giving him as it were consent against her will, Sicanus (as was supposed) entred the Lists, whom the wounded Knight at the first onset unhorst, having broken two of his Ribs, and the Company unlacing his Helmet to give him breath, found that it was not really Sicanus, but a person he had hired in his stead, which was so ill relented by the whole Assembly, that they all concluded him guilty, and the King of Persia disowned him for his Son, so that betwixt grief and shame in short time after he died.

But the Victors, being carried in great triumph through the City, and presented with many rich Gifts, at last arrived at the Court; where, being received with all imaginable Honour and Acclamations, they were set down in

Chairs

Chairs of State, the chiefest of the King's Physicians being sent for to dress their Wounds. Coming to take off the Knight in the Scark's Armour, it was found to be cas'd over artificially with Silver, and under it Black Armour, so that then he was discovered to be the Black Knight, whom they thought to have been dead of his Wounds in the Combat with Bruster. Whereupon Dionysius embracing him afresh, left the unarming of him to the King of Bohemia, as the greatest honour; which the Black Knight would by no means suffer, but humbly kneeling, desired his Majesty to grant him one favour, which being consented to, he intreated his gracious Pardon for the Murtherers of Parismus. But being ask, why he should make so unreasonable a Demand; Because, said he, Parismus is yet in good health. Upon which words he immediately discover'd himself, to the joy and wonder of all there present. And then he at large related the story of his miraculous preservation by certain Out-laws, who accidentally finding his wounded Body in the Wood, they carefully convey'd him to their Cave, and chose him (after his recovery) for their General.

This

This Story seem'd at first so incre
dible, that they hardly durst give credi
to their eyes, but every circumstanc
being fully related and consider'd, they
were all as it were swallowed up with
wonder for a time; but, at last, for pre
vailed, and the King would have ten
for Laurana once more to have welcome
the same Person, though under a dif
ferent Character; but Parismus, the mor
to surprize the Princess, desired he might
be the Messenger himself, to which th
King easily consented, and he was con
ducted to her Apartment; accordingl
Parismus, with the Lord Remus, comin
to the Princess's Lodgings, found th
Door fast, and imagining she might b
private, stood still a while, for fear o
giving her a disturbance; but, after
very short pause, they heard her tun
up her Lute, beginning in a Solem
Air, and most Angelical Voice, the fo
lowing Song:

Kind Knight, I know thy Promise was i
vain,
To bring Parismus back to Life again,
And yet how much is to thy Courage due?
Who nobly didst his Murtherer subdue;

For

For 'tis a part of happiness to be
Deliver'd from Misfortunes we foresee.
All, but my Heart, I give as a Reward.
No Knight so mean a Present would regard;
It bleeds, it pants, so shattered is and torn,
It merits not acceptance now, but scorn;
Yet poor Parismus shall this Present have,
Which I shall shortly carry to his Grave.

So Passionate were her Words, and so Divine her Voice, that Parismus could contain himself no longer, but roundly knock'd at the Door, which Leda having opened, he entred with the Lord Remus: Leda shriek'd, and the Princess fell in a Trance, absolutely imagining she had seen the Ghost of Parismus. But, after a long time, Lord Remus had much ado to bring her to herself, and to perswade her to the truth of what she saw. Twenty times she examin'd her senses, to know if she were awake, and at last being fully convinced by a touch of his warm Lips, that he was really and indeed the living Parismus, 'tis impossible to say which was greatest, her Joy, or her Wonder. So that after an hour's contemplation of each others Happiness, the Princess, in pity to his Wounds, conducted him into the Presence-

fence-Chamber, and there openly declar'd her Affection to him, desiring the care of him might be committed to her charge, till he was perfectly recovered. This she did in so gallant and generous a manner, that none could tax her with the least immodesty for so doing. Insomuch that Dionysius readily granted her request, and promised to consummate her Happiness in Nuptial Bonds, as soon as Parismus should be recovered of his Wounds, which was not long after.

CHAP. VI.

The Marriage of **Parismus** and **Laurana**, going towards **Bohemia**, he, by treachery, is left with **Pollipus** and **Violetta** (disguis'd as a Page) in the **Desolate Island**: she is carried by the Tyrant **Andramart** to the Island of **Rocks**, where, in great affliction, she is delivered of **Parismenos**, whom they threatned to murder, if she would not submit to the Tyrant's Lust, but is preserved by his Nurse: The Enchantment of the **Desolate Island** dissolv'd, &c.

AND now the Marriage of these two Illustrious Persons being solemnized

nized with a Magnificence becoming the bounty of Dionysius, and the merit of that Royal Pair; they spent some days in the Court of Dionysius, with unexpressible Satisfaction, esteeming each others Happiness beyond the reach, even of the most adverse Fortune. But, alas, the best of Men, and greatest of Princes are equally (and perhaps more) subject to the frowns of adverse Fate, than the meanest Peasant: For by this time the King of Bohemia's Affairs requiring his return into his own Country, it was requisite that Parismus and his Princess should attend him; whereupon great preparation, and sorrow, being made for their Departure, at the time prefixt, they took a sad and solemn Leave of the Court of Thebes; Dionysius with all his Nobles attended them to the Frontiers of his Dominions, and returned with Grief for the loss of so good Company.

But it must not be forgotten, that Polipus, who resolved to accompany Parismus into Bohemia, during his residence in Thebes, chanced to be enamoured of a Merchant's only Daughter, named Violetta; but she out of a private kindness she bore to the Prince, notwithstanding his Marriage, and the impossibility of

enjoying him, resolved to seek her Fortune with him in Bohemia; to which end attiring herself in the habit of a Page she came to Court, and soon got admittance into the Prince's Service, so that in short time they got to the Port, and soon set sail for Bohemia: but the Vessel being small Patches or Pleasure-boats, and their Attendance numerous, it was thought fit that Parismus, Laurana, Pollipus, Leda and Violetta (now called Adonius) should go in one Patcht, and the King of Bohemia, with his Attendants, in another: long they had not sailed, but so fierce a Tempest arose, that the Ships soon lost one another, and the Prince's Marriners being strongly driven to the Westward, and in danger of standing, cut their Shrowds, and took off their Mast by the board; but the King's Ship whether from the skill of the Seamen or ability of the Vessel, stood away to the Wind-ward, and tho' with some difficulty, gave the Coast of Bohemia. Parismus and Laurana being a Comfort to each other in their Distress, began to think all Danger blown over with the Tempest, but were soon deceiv'd by the approach of certain Pyrates, who boarded them under the assurance of Con-

quest

queſt, but by the irreſiſtable Power of Parismus, Pollipus, and the reſt, they met with ſo ſharp a Repulſe, that they were ſoon brought in ſubjection, many of them being ſlain, and the reſt clapt under the Hatches; wherefore, by advice of the Seamen, it was decreed to take out ſuch Goods as were of value, and with them to go aboard the Pyrate's Ship; this being done with equal courage and ſucceſs, Parismus ordered ſome of his Men to go aſhore, and take a little freſh water for fear of the worſt, which accordingly they did, himſelf, Pollipus and Adonius accompanying them, a little to refreſh themſelves upon that pleaſant Shore; no ſooner had the Pyrates notice of this Advantage, but preſently they broke up the Hatches, ſurprizing and ſecuring the Seamen Parismus had left aboard, and ſinking the Prince's Boat, to prevent purſuit, ſet ſail for the Iſland of Rocks, to which they belong'd; Parismus, with the reſt aſhore, ſeeing his Diſaſter, would have done any thing to ſtop them in their flight; but being ſenſible that doing Violence to himſelf was not a means of offering ſo up to them, with great wiſdom (I cannot ſay much patience) he attended the

Veſſel with his eye, while ſhe was within ken, and afterwards with Prayers for the ſafety of Lavrana, who, poor Lady, was all this while inſenſible of her Misfortune, and only wonder'd at the tedious abſence of her Lord; Pariſmus, Pollipus and Adonius, in this diſtreſs knew not what courage to take, and therefore reſolv'd to ſtay aſhore, and hale the next Veſſel, while the Marriners ſtoping a ſmoak made that way in hopes of ſuccour: but the Prince having ſpent the remaining part of the day in a thouſand Complaints of his own inadvertency, blaming Fortune for faults himſelf was guilty of, and himſelf for ſuch as it was too late to repent of; at laſt in the cloſe of the Evening, an aged Man, in mean attire, came up, and courteouſly ſaluted him with his Aſſociates, and began as follows: Gentlemen, I perceive you are Strangers brought hither by ſtreſs of Weather, otherwiſe you would never have landed upon ſo dangerous a Coaſt.

Truly Father, ſaid Pariſmus, you gueſs aright, but wherein, I pray, lies the danger of the Coaſt?

Gentlemen, ſaid he, if you will vouchſafe to accept a poor Lodging in a Hermit's Cell, I will acquaint you with the Story more at large

large, where in mean safety you may pass away the night, which else on this Shore may be hazardous. To this they thankfully consented, and departed with the Hermit.

The poor Princess all the while knew not of her being a Prisoner, till she came to land at the Island of Rocks, where finding herself in a strange place, without the comfort of her Lord, she began grievously to afflict herself; but Andramart, a great Tyrant, and Governour of that Island, having notice of that beautiful Prize, came and courteously invited her into his Castle, and there us'd her in most obliging manner, hoping thereby to gain her to his lustful will, but finding fair means ineffectual, he sent his Sister Adamasia, who reproaching her in most ignominous sort, tortering her with knotty whips, and not allowing her or her Maid Leda Necessaries for Life, in such sort that she had well nigh perish'd: Nevertheless, the vertuous Princess stood unmov'd, and would never submit to Andramart's lust: thus for many months she lived, till at her time it pleased the Goddess Lucina to deliver her of a Son, whom she named Parismenos, and put it out to Nurse. Then came

the cruel Adamasia, and vow'd that unless she would yield to Andramart's love, she would murder the Infant before her face. Nevertheless, she committed her Virtue to the care of Heaven, and utterly refused to give her Consent. The Nurse hearing thereat, and having a tender love for so sweet a Babe, fled with it into the Wilderness, and there preserved it many Years.

Return we now to Parismus, who by this time had understood that place to be called the Desolate Island, of which the said Hermit was once King, but was supplanted by Bellona, a Sorceress, and driven to live in that mean estate; so having given an account at large, he desired them to accept of his hard bed to retresh themselves for that night, which for a time, in civility, they refused, but with much importunity at last accepted of. The climate and season somewhat cold, they put Adonius in the middle, who, poor heart! with a trembling kind of joy lay all night between her beloved Parismus and her loving Pollipus, that little imagin'd who they had to their Bed-fellow. So mean was their Lodging, and so Great their grief, that Parismus spent most of the night in sad Complaints

for

for the Absence of his Laurana, and Pollipus for the Unkindness of his Violetta; but the morning approaching, they all arose, and, by direction of the Hermit, went towards the Castle, notwithstanding his earnest intreaties to the contrary. Having viewed the Castle, shortly scituated upon a high Rock, they heard the ringing of a small Bell, and in short time espied six Knights, in bright Armour, scrowling over the Moat: Parismus with Pollipus, knowing they should be assaulted, received them at their landing, and that with such magnanimity and success, that some fell back into the water and were drown'd, others lay dead upon the spot, and the rest submitted themselves. This news being carried into the Castle, Bellona herself came out to meet them with a smiling and pleasant Countenance, whom Parismus took to be some beautiful Prisoner of the Castle, but as he courteously addressed himself to her, she had that power with her Enchantment, to cause a deep sleep to come upon them all, and commanded forthwith that they should be carried Prisoners into the Castle. When their senses were again restored, they were strangely surprised to find them-

selves fast shut in a Dungeon, and loaded with heavy Irons, having no other comfort left them but their Prayers to Heaven, and Complaints to one another. Here they continued many months under as much hardship as the Cruelty of a Tyrant could inflict, for Drubal, Paramour to Bellona, often sent for them before him, causing them to be tortur'd in divers manners, and taking delight in their afflictions. But the Enchantress seeing the Resolution of Parismus, and the Excellency of his Person, began to entertain lustful thoughts for him, which she resolved to satiate, though with the loss of her Life: So that giving Drubal a Stupefactive Potion, she addressed herself in obliging manner to Parismus, causing his Fetters to be taken off, and desiring him to walk with her in the Garden: Parismus wondring at this strange alteration, resolved to see the event thereof, and being come into a pleasant Wilderness, he soon apprehended her lustful Inclinations, and yielding a seeming compliance therewith, he at last took his opportunity, and seizing her by the hair of the head, twisted her neck in such sort, that he set her face behind, whereof she immediately died.

This

This being done, a strange Tempest of Thunder and Lightning arose, which made the very Earth to tremble, and the Enchantment being broke, there appeared a mighty Smoke about the Castle, which immediately vanished, and left them, as it were, in plain ground. After this, the place seem'd all'd with Fiends and damned Spirits, who in hideous sort began to torture Drubal, with his Servants and Officers, insomuch, that for a time there was nothing to be heard but the groans and yells of damned Souls, enough to have terrified the hardiest Knight upon the Earth. Nevertheless, Parismus with an immoveable Courage returned to find out Pollipus and Adonius, whose Fetters were suddenly fallen off, and they in a strange amazement looking about them, but seeing Parismus in safety, they congratulated each others happy Deliverance, and returned their Thanks to Heaven that had so miraculously wrought the same. The rest of the Prisoners likewise understanding that they owed their Deliverance to Parismus, came in courteous manner and returned him their humble Thanks; among whom was the Wife and Children of Antiochus the Hermit, who were by

this

this means restored to their Kingdom, which ever after they quietly enjoyed, rendring the same commodations for Ships, and hospitable for Strangers, which for some years had been ruined and desolate, avoided by Mankind as Ominous and Unfortunate.

Antiochus in gratitude to these worthy Knights, entertained them for some time courteously in his Palace, and at their request hung out a Flag of Truce to invite Ships into that Port; Parilmus hoping by that means to find an opportunity of going in Pursuit of his Laurana. At last a Vessel of Hungary, under the Conduct of Barzillus, put ashore, and at the request of Parilmus, with a promise of great Reward, stay'd there for some days, till he had prepared all things in readiness for the Voyage, and in solemn manner taken Leave of that Court.

CHAP.

CHAP. VII

Parisinus arrives at the Island of Rocks, kills Andramart, and with his Laurana joyfully arrives in Bohemia; with other Matters, &c.

They had not sailed many Leagues to the Northward, but near the same place where they were first attacqued, they were again boarded by the same Pyrates, whom likewise after a fierce Engagement they once more subdued; but considering their former treachery, Parisinus thought good to put the greater part of them to the Sword, sparing only some few to give him an account of the Princess, and conduct him to the place where she was. Whereupon one of them giving him the story at large, as hath been before related, Parisinus with Pollipus and Adonius, were overjoyed to hear of the Princess's Safety, and resolved to free her from Imprisonment, or die in the Attempt: this Resolution the Gods seemed to favour, for coming to the Castle-gate, they found Andramart just alighted from Hunting, with some few Servants, whom after a sharp Dispute, Parisinus, with the help of Pollipus, and

and Barzillus, slew and subdued, and taking the Keys from Andramart, who would trust none therewith in his absence, they entred the Castle in Triumph, surprizing and slaying the Servants of Andramart at their pleasure.

And now the main business was to find out the Princess Laurana, whom after a tedious and diligent Search they met with, in a room no ways fitted to her condition, but for its solitarinels: She was leaning her head against the bolom of Leda, with wringed hands and blubber'd eyes, uttering nothing but the sweet Name of her beloved Parismus. Much ado there was to make these two (once more happy Lovers) sensible of so blessed a Change, but at last fill'd with the joyful apprehensions of each others safety, they spent the time in a most refined and spotless Enjoyment of each other. By this time Parismus having understood the cruel Usage Laurana met with, and the supposed Murder of Parismenos, he revenged himself by the cruel death of Adamasia, the Author thereof, and returned into his own Country; but with what Joy these long absent Princes were received in the Bohemian Court, no Pen is able to express, nor any Reader sufficiently

ently able to comprehend; every one striving who should express the greatest Satisfaction for the Return of a Prince and Princess whose Fame and Vertues were in all places loudly spoken of, with Honour, Praise, and the highest Commendations imaginable. King Dionysius with his Queen welcomed them, and caused Musick, and many Banquets, and proclaiming of a general Rejoycing thro' all his Kingdom for ten days, to speak the rest of his Contentment for the happy Arrival of this Princely Pair: none but the Father of Violetta, for the absence of his dear Daughter, was sad in all that Country, yet he had not that cause to be so, but by mistake, for she he thought absent was present, disguised in the Habit of a Page, under the name of Adonius, and grieved to see him in that Sorrow, labouring to Comfort him, telling him he knew his Daughter would soon arrive at Court, for he had seen her in his Travels, and the fame of those Festivals, she being at liberty and in health, would no doubt soon bring her there; this a little dried up his aged Tears, though till a fitter time she resolved not to discover herself to him, or any other.

King

King Dionysius, now the excels of Joy being somewhat abated, had leisure to hear the Travels and strange Adventures of Parismus and Laurana, which the noble Prince told him in order from his first departure, till his happy return, as has been related, recommending to him his Friend Pollipus as the most generous of all Knights; whom the King embraced and welcomed with such tenderness, as if he had been his own Son, for which he returned him all humble Thanks; but his mind was so taken up with the supposed loss of his fair Violetta, in search of whom he resolved to travel the World once more, that the Pleasures of the Court, and the Carresses he met with there, had no great influence on him. Yet to this general rejoycing came many Gallant Knights and Ladies; here the valiant Tellemore found his Sister, in whose search he had spent much time, and run a thousand dangers and hazards, which greatly rejoyced him.

Whilst all these things happened, the Princess, Laurana, often retired and wept in secret for the loss of her Infant, which she had left in the Isle of Rocks; and tho' Parismenos laboured to comfort her, yet no-

nothing could prevail with her, to put the Idea of it out of her tender heart: sometimes she wished she had dyed herself to have saved it, concluding it must be dead; at other times, she flatters herself, that the protection of Innocents was the peculiar care of Heaven. But at length, being brought to bed of a fair Daughter, which she named Lauria, her Sorrows began to lessen, and this Daughter growing up, was married to the King of Hungary's Son, named Pollinesso, a valiant Knight, who undertook many strange Adventures before he obtained her Love, becoming famous in Arms and many brave Exploits. But they being somewhat Forreign to this History, and not performed before the end of these Adventures, we are further to speak of it, and only here lightly mention those illustrious Persons, and leave them as the worthy Subject of another Treatise.

CHAP.

CHAP. VIII.

How Frenetta, Daughter to King Antiochus, fell desperately in Love with Pollipus; and how upon his Refusing her, and declaring his constant Love for Violetta, she, upon his departure, fell Distracted, and died Mad.

WHilst Pollipus lingred, attended by his supposed Adonis, Frenetta, Daughter to King Antiochus, who had entertained him and Parismus so honourably in the Desolate Island, came in search of him to the Thessalian Court, as being extreamly in Love, and finding him, he welcomed her to the Palace, with much joy, pleasure, and many endearing expressions, for the kind Offices she had done him, during his stay, in her Father's Court, and recommended her to the Company of the Thessalian Ladies, who entertained her with many Obligements. This courtesie of Pollipus, the Princess taking to proceed from his Love and Affection to her, fondly gave the reins to her Passion, and indulged herself with Flatteries, of things she was never like to possess; yet finding he proceeded not to Court her, as she ex-

erpetuall, and her Feaver of Love encreasing, after a long while tormenting herself in mind, and not being able to rule her Passion, she resolved, at the cost of many Blushes, to break the Rule, which the Modesty of some Virgins allow not, and plainly tell him her mind; when one day meeting him in the Gallery with Adonius, as he came towards her, to salute her in his usual manner, desiring to know whither she was at liberty to bestow her Conversation on him, to pass away a few solitary hours; after some Blushes and Excuses, she willingly consented, and after some Discourse, about indifferent things, that had passed between them, she drew him aside to a window, that looked into a pleasant Garden, and not being able to contain herself any longer, she thus expressed herself:

Courteous Knight, excuse me, if, contrary to the Maiden Rule, which ties them up to too much Reservedness, I am constrained to reveal a Secret that struggles, and is too mighty for my Breast to contain. To be plain, I Love you with the truest Affection a willing Heart can entertain; and without like returns of Love from you, I find I must be for ever miserable. Pollipus was not a little star-

led at this unexpected Discourse, accu
sing himself as unworthy of so great a
Favour, till finding she grew impati
ent of denial, and that his Compli
ments only added fuel to her flame, he
thought it best to undeceive her, lest
the impression he had made in her Heart
should go too deep, and endanger so ver
tuous and innocent a Creature, who had
deserved well at his hands; one who
had refused Princes for his sake. But
as he was about to tell her of his En
gagement to Violetta, Parismus's coming
in, interrupted it; so that the Princess
being thus prevented, in the suitable
Answer she expected, went away blush
ing and in much heaviness, leaving he
beloved Knight in great confusion, at
this unexpected Adventure; which Pari
mus perceiving, so earnestly pressed him
to know what laboured in his mind
that he told him all that had passed be
tween him, and the Princess Frenetta
The Prince, hereupon, endeavoured to
perswade him to a compliance with he
Love, urging the advantages he would
gain in Marrying a King's Daughter
with a Kingdom to her Dower; One
Wise and Beautiful, and not easily to
be excelled in rareness of Perfection.

Adonius

Adonius, who had over-heard all this, was mightily troubled, thinking these perswasions might alter his Love, in favour of that Princess, so the tears trickled from her Eyes; to this Adonius, as we have said, was that Violetta, in disguise, that he had vowed eternal Constancy too; but when she heard his reply, joy over-powred her Heart: For, said he, most Noble Prince, though indeed I can but compassionate this Royal Maid, who does me an Honour, of which I am not worthy, in granting me her Love; but having vowed eternal Constancy to my Dear Violetta, and whose true Affection I am confident of, though she be not a King's Daughter, yet is she dearer to me than all the Princesses in the World, nor shall any Crowns bribe me to break my Vows to her; but it may be my absence in search of her, may do this Princess a kindness in curing her of a Passion, which comes too late to be eased by my means.

Parismus, who had proceeded before to try his Constancy, applauded this virtuous Opinion of his; but Violetta, exceedingly rejoyced, as being now confirmed no Beauty, how much soever it might exceed her's, was capable to gain a place in his heart above her; but, howe-

her, where-ever he walked she kept so near to him, that she hindered all the opportunities of the Princess's speaking to him; till at last, being about to depart in search of her that was always so near him in disguise, he resolved to force himself so far as to undeceive the Princess; and thereupon stealing from Adonius, he went to her Chamber, where he found her cast on her Bed, and her fair Eyes much injured by the often trickling down of tears: At the sight of him she raised herself up, as well as the weakness of her condition would allow, and in hopes he came to make a proffer of his Love to her, her heart was so revived, that fresh Blood came into her Face, grown pale with sorrow, and caused a comely Bluth; she welcomed him with many kind Expressions; but he, perceiving her mistake, sat down by her, and taking his hand on hers, whilst she gave him a melting kiss, fetching a sigh, he said, Ah! Divine Princess, that I must be ungrateful to so much Beauty and Goodness; that I must refuse what is offer'd, and yet acknowledge it much above my Deserts; yet pardon me, that am constrained to do it, and call in that Love that you have placed on one that can make no suitable Returns;

turns; my Heart had entertained another Guest before I saw your beauteous Face, a Lady, though no Princess, to whom I have vowed eternal Constancy, though I know not at present what part of the World containeth her.

This the Princess took so heavily, to find she was utterly rejected, that not being capable to reply, bursting into Tears, with a great Cry, she cast herself on her Bed, and fell into a deadly swound, from which he endeavoured to recover her; but in the mean time her Maids came about her, and when he saw her begin to revive, he, lest his presence should any more trouble her, withdrew himself: but when she came to her senses, and missed him, she fell into grievous Complaints, and such immoderate Sorrow, that it discovered her Vein to a degree of Distraction, so that with that, and pining away, by refusing Food, this poor Princess, who came too late to possess a Heart she so fain would have enjoyed, died, greatly lamented of all that heard of her sad Story.

CHAP. IX.

How Pollipus, unknow to him, lay with Violetta, under the Disguise of a Page; how he told her the whole Story of his Love, and the Comfort she gave him; how at last, when he was going in Search of her, she discovered herself to him, and of their happy Marriage.

THo' there were many Turnaments and Justs ordained in Honour of Parismus's Marriage, and many renowned Knights did Wonders, yet Parismus himself, in Honour of his Fair Bride entering the Lists, performed such Wonders in Chivalry, Unhorsing all he Encountered, that the Lawrel was placed on his Head, by the Judges of the Field, as an Assurance of Victory; and in the close of the Evening, the Palace being Illuminated with Wax Tapours, the Ladies prepared to Dance, and there was Royal Feasting, as well to the Strangers as those that appertained to the Court: But all this while Pollipus was very sad, and intent about his Departure in Search of Violetta, who had lain with him so often unknown, or undiscovered of what Sex she was, which

mad

made him privately withdraw from the Noble Assembly, that by hasting to Bed, he might be up the sooner to be going in the Morning; he soon did what he proposed, and ordered his supposed Page to lye with him; he slept little that night, but proved very restless, sighing and groaning very much, tossing to and fro, as one much disturbed in mind, grieving for the Death of the Princess Frenetta, and more, when he considered the Dangers, as he supposed, his dear Violetta might be exposed to for want of his Assistance; which made her, who then lay by him, inwardly hustle, and to pass away the time, resolved to enter into a Discourse with him; whereupon, Sir Knight, said she, I wonder that for a considerable time past, I have perceived you altogether restless and uneasie, start in your sleep, and talk of strange things to yourself, the like I have not seen, in any but yourself; therefore, continued she, I beseech you, if I have found any Favour in your Sight, or at any time been Gracious in your Eyes, let me make it my Request that you would freely open your Bosom-thoughts to me, and hide not, from your poor Servant, the weighty Secret, that so much oppresses you; perhaps Heaven may be so propitious,

pitious, as to inspire me with such Counsel, as may afford you a timely Remedy, before you throw yourself into Melancholly, or some despairing Condition.

Poor Boy, replied he, thy Love is unquestionable to me, and I know, lay it in thy power to ease the Dolours and Anguish of my Soul, they would not be of long continuance; but, alas, in the condition I am, all thy Love, Strength, Art, or Policy is unavailable in this case.

But pray, said she, let me know it however, and if I cannot do what I would to contribute to your Quiet and Happiness, I will do it to the utmost of my power; and doubt not but some Advantage may accrue by it.

And so long she pressed him, that at last, fetching a deep sigh, he told her all the material passages of his Love, and that the cause of his Griet sprung from a fear that he was slighted by her he so much loved, since he had never heard from her in any Court wherein he had been enquiring for her.

Is this all, said she; can a Fancy set on a Woman's Beauty, breed such Disquiets in the Mind of so Valiant and Brave a Knight? Come, come, trouble your self no more about it, your Worth, if she had any knowledge of your Love, is of force sufficient to

Elizabeth

gain

gain her Affections, and keep her constant; Come, chear up, Sir, for I know this Violetta well; that she is of so vertuous a Disposition, that nothing can make her condescend to any thing that is not brave and generous; and if I can Presage aright, as often I have done, there is no doubt but in a short space you will find her, and not only find her, but find her courteous and loving, free from Disdain, and even from Coyness, any more than Modesty requires.

This Discourse, though he could lay no great stress upon it, was, however, pleasing to our Knight; so that towards morning he fell into a pleasant slumber, and dreamed he was Embracing of his dear Violetta, with such Content and Satisfaction, that the thoughts of it, even almost Ravished him: when he was awake, and taking it for a good Omen of finding her, he hasted to get ready his Horse, in order to be gone, when Violetta, who had all this while gone under the disguised Name of Adonius, in a Page his Habit, and had lain with her dear Pollipus undiscovered to him, and therefore knew more particularly the sincerity of his Affections towards her; when she found she was unable, by the inward motions of her Heart, to conceal herself

any

any longer from his knowledge; she had heard the Sighs and Groans he had uttered, and seen the Tears that in pearly drops distilled from his Eyes, whilst for her supposed loss, whilst she lay by his side, and at other times, when she accompanied him in lonely Woods and Groves, where he vented his Woes and Lamentations; and finding he was about to take his leave of Parisous, in search of her; she concluded he had been enough Afflicted, and ought to suffer no more when it was in her power to remedy it. Yet to save her Blushes and Honour, she thought a convenient opportunity was the best; and therefore being in Bed with him, and hearing his Sighs, though she was still under the disguise of a Page, she told him, she in a little time doubted not but to ease his Sorrow, but he made little account of it; she told him she knew very well where his Lady was, and that she could do more with her, on his behalf, than any one living. He only replying, Alas! pretty Youth, I know thou endeavourest to delude my Sorrows; but I tell you, no Flattery or Insinuation can end them, till I find her, unless Death put an end to my Woes, in the tedious Search I am about to make after her.

Up-

Upon this she perswaded him not to undertake it, and had much ado to refrain from Tears; she thought instantly to have discovered herself, but Honour checked her Passion in such an unseemly place; yet promised him that the next day she would ease his Pain, and prevent his Journey, by presenting his Mistress before him; this he still looked on as a Fable, and so, as well as his restless condition would permit, he fell asleep.

The Sun the next Morning had no sooner guilded the Earth with its glorious Beams, and made all Nature rejoyce with its kind Light and Heat, but the fair One, rising first, desired him for to come to her in the neighbouring Grove, under the spreading Beech-tree, where he had so often uttered his Laments, and carved the Cipher of his Beloved's Name on the tender Bark, and there he should find the Joy and Satisfaction she had promised him; she needed not to use many Arguments to incite him, for he immediately promised to obey. In the mean while, by the means of Leda, the Princess Laurana's Maid, she had got Female-apparel, very rich and costly, and hid them some distance from the place in a Thicket.

Pol-

Pollipus you may be sure was not slow to keep his word, though Doubts and Fears were greater than his expected Joys; it was not long (for the steps of Lovers are always swift) e'er he arrived at the well-known place, and finding only the supposed Adonius there, sitting on a little Hill raised of Turfs, very pensive and thoughtful, he fancied all the contrivance was only to lull his Sorrow asleep; yet she no sooner heard his tread, but starting up, and running to meet him, put him into other thoughts: when she told him, if he would have but the patience to sit a little, she would fetch the Saint he did so much admire to him.

Ah! said Pollipus, embracing her, if that could be done, all the Business of my Life should be to make thee amends.

Well, replied she, if I do not, let me henceforth suffer all your Hate, which would be worse to me than Death.

Hereupon she departed, and went into the Thicket, and put off her Page's Habit, and attired herself with the other: At her approach he started, and thought he saw a Vision, the Brightness of Angels, casting a radience of Divine Beauty, through the shading Branches of the Grove; and immediately hasting to meet

so

so heavenly a Creature, astonished, and not able to speak, he fell down at her feet; but she raised him gently, when looking on her lovely and well-known Eyes, with Kisses and Tears, he Embraced her, as yet not being able to speak for Joy; but coming a little to himself, and having pour'd out his passionate Affections, his next words were to enquire for Adonius, that he might requite him, in some measure, for so great a Favour: But giving him a tender Kiss, she said, Ah, my Lord, you have that Page in me, Adonius and Violetta are all one; Through the Affections I bore you, and to try your Constancy, I put on this disguise of Name and Habit. This struck him with greater wonder and admiration than before, that he could scarce believe that he was awake, and that it was rather a Dream than a Reality: but upon her often repeating it, delivering him a Jewel he had given her, and all the former Circumstances of their Love and Misfortunes, in an Excess of Joy he was confirmed of the Truth; and so an End being put to his Sorrows, and intended Search, he led the Admired Lady to their Lodgings.

The News of this coming to the knowledge

ledge of Parismus, and his fair Princess, caused great Joy in them, who immediately went to visit the two Lovers, and congratulate their happy Meeting: but when Parismus knew that Violetta had been represented by Adonius his Page, he could not but stand in greater Admiration than his Friend, embracing of her tenderly, as did his Princess, declaring her Innocence and Vertue: And hereupon Andrugio, her Father, being sent for, with Tears of Joy, gave his Consent, joining their Hands in a happy Marriage, which was celebrated with great [illegible] and Magnificence, to Parismus and his [illegible] And with this happy Marriage we conclude the First Part of this Renowned History. 10 JU 52

The End of the First Part.

E Bird

Gentlemen and Ladies,

THe First Part of this Famous History having, no doubt, pleased the Reader, I therefore, for farther Satisfaction, introduce him to the Second, no less full of Delight; mostly treating of the Adventures of the Famous Parismenos, the Knight of Fame, Son to the Renowned Parismus, and his beautiful Princess Laurana, with his Love to the most Fair Angelica, the Lady of the Golden Tower, and Daughter to King Marganus; intermixed with other Adventures no less recreating the Mind, being the Consummation or Conclusion of the whole Story of these Noble Lovers; described in so smooth and easie a Stile, that the Learned, as in a bright Mirror, may see the Image of Vertue, and the Ignorant raised to a highth of Passion, fit to admire and immitate it: Being thus put together, I need not Comment farther on it, but Recommend it impartially, a Piece worthy the Perusal of either Sex, that are enclinable to generous Love, and to immitate the excellent Vertues of the Persons herein Characterized.

Vale.

PARISMENOS.

ANGELICA.

THE

Second PART

Of the Famous and Pleasant

HISTORY

OF

PARISMUS,

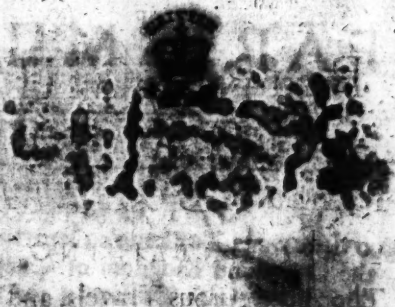
PRINCE OF BOHEMIA.

CONTAINING

The Adventurous Travels, and Noble Chivalry of *PARISMENOS*, the *Knight of Fame*, with his Love to the Fair Princess *ANGELICA*, the *Lady of the Golden Tower*.

LONDON: Printed by *W. Onley*, for *Josiah Blare*, at the Looking-glass, on *London-bridge*; and for *George Conyers*, at the Ring in *Little Britain*.

ho how sweet are the
smills upon tweed
yet B is sweeter then
thous fancey do yeate



The Famous and Renowned

HISTORY OF PARISMUS.

PART II.

CHAP. I.

Parismus and Laurana's Departure from the Court and Kingdom of Thessaly to Bohemia; also Phillipus and Violetta's Arrival there, and the Misfortune that befel them.

Having the two new married Lovers, excepting all the Gallantry they could shew, in the House of Dionysius, King of Thessaly, we must follow Parismus, and his fair Princess, returning, once more, to Bohemia, who were

not parted with, but with Tears and much Sorrow, by Dionysius, the Queen, Olivia, and all the Court: However, they were attended with a very Noble Train, of some of which we shall have occasion to speak hereafter, and so, for Brevity's sake, in this place omit their Names. In their way by Land they passed thro' many Countries, without meeting with any Adventure worthy of note, and arriving upon the Confines of Bohemia, the Prince welcomed his beloved Lauruna to a Country, of which Destiny, after some hardships, which she was yet to undergo, had designed her to be Queen.

Parisinus had sent word before of his coming, and therefore the Bohemians every-where welcomed him and his Princess with Joy and shews of Triumph; and amongst those that came to meet and congratulate him, was one Ancestor, a Nobleman, who entreated him, in his way to the Court, to take an Entertainment at his House, which he kindly accepted, where he and his Company were Entertained with great Splendour and Magnificence; and here it was, upon notice sent by this Nobleman, that the King and Queen of Bohemia, casting off their great Sadness, came to meet them,

and

and with tears of Joy, expressed their welcome; Not long after the Court had abounded in Feasts and Triumphant Shews, and all that could express the welcome of so long and absent a Prince, and the fair Lady he had gained by his Vertue and Valour; Pollipus and Violetta arrived to participate of these Tops with their beloved Friends, but in a little time there happened an Accident that much eclipsed the Mirth of the Court, especially that of the Prince and his Princess, for Pollipus, and his beloved Lady, going in the Evening to take their Recreation in a Forrest, without any Attendance, as they were discoursing of Love, and former Adventures, a huge Bear came towards them, which terrible Beast affrighting the Lady, he started up and drew his Sword to shield her from the danger, immediately putting the Beast to flight; but not thinking it enough, unless he brought it's Head to lay at her feet, as a Trophy of his Valour; he pursued him among the thickest of the Trees, contrary to her Intreaty, and at last killed him; but in the mean while, she, fearing his Safety, and apprehensive of her own Danger, strayed in fear, that when he returned he

could not find her; whereupon he immediately run to the Court, thinking her Fears had carried her thither; but not, upon enquiry, and the most diligent search, getting any notice of her, he ran like one distracted back again to the Forrest, with his bloody Sword in his hand, but to little purpose, for she, growing weary with searching for him, and thinking he was devour'd of wild Beasts, sat down on a Bank to bemoan her Misfortunes, making grievous Complaints; which one Archas, called, The Cruel, for his Tyrany and Villany, hearing, as he was bearing the Roads for Prey, entered the Forrest, and seeing a Woman in a disconsolate condition, and at the same time, beholding her excellent Beauty, who looked lovely in Tears, he demanded the cause of her Bewailings; which she had no sooner told him, in hopes he was a courteous Knight, and that by his Assistance her Lord might be found: but, on the contrary, burning with lustful desires, he told her, if she would mount behind one of his Servants, and ride to Court, he and the rest would search the Woods, and bring her Lord to her. To this, with some unwillingness, she consented, giving him her Scarf to shew Pollipus; as

a Pledge of her Safety, that he need no longer doubt or torment himself with fears: but this treacherous Tyrant had given private Orders she should be immediately carried to his Castle, standing some miles from thence, among Rocks and Mountains, very difficult of access, which was performed, notwithstanding her struggling and cries to prevent it: And that, upon search, she might be thought to be torn in pieces by wild Beasts, he tore her Start in pieces and scattered it in the Paths of the Forrest; which Pollipus, upon finding it, believing, made such Lamentations as pierced not only the Heart of the Valiant Parismus, but the most Obdurate: He thereupon running into the Woods, and vowing not to give over his search till he found her. Laurana hearing this, was much cast down in sorrow for the cross Accident that had befallen the two constant Lovers: And many were sent out to look for Pollipus, and assist him, if in danger; but could not at that time find him: so that we must leave him in search a while for his fair Lady, and return to other Adventures.

CHAP.

CHAP. II.

How the Nurse of Parismenos, the Princess Laurena's Son, being killed by a Lion, in the Tartarian Isle of Rocks, he liv'd in great Hardship as a Wild-man, and arrived at Andramart's Castle; how he was received there to his Content, and after a hard Combate, and being desirous to seek Adventures, put to Sea, where he fought with the Moorish Pirates, but being separated and shipwracked by Storm, he was cast on the Coast of Thrace, and there nam'd, The Knight of Fame.

YOu have heard already how the fair and beautiful Princess Laurana, was delivered of a Son in her great Distress, in the Isle of Rocks, this Son being there taken from her by order of Andramart and Adamasia, his cruel Sister, and the Princess's Taylor, to griebe and afflict the Lady the more, because she would not yeild to the Tyrant's lust, and that not being able to terrifie, or win upon her vertues, Orders were given, in her hearing, to the Nurse to murder it: As for the sorrow she conceived hereat, it is in vain for us to go about to describe; but so Providence order'd, to the future com-

fort

sort of the Parents, that the Nurse, in obedience to their wicked Commands, putting the knife twice or thrice to it's throat, the innocent Babe still smiling in her face, compassion wrought with her so far, that she had neither the courage nor heart to destroy it; whereupon, one Moon-shiny-night, she left the Castle privately, and went with it into a Cave in a great Forrest, where she noueished it some Years with the Milk of a Goat she carried along with her; feeding herself upon roots, and such fruits as the Forrest afforded, in the various seasons; and though she was much searched for, could not be found.

At length Andramart, and his cruel Sister, as in the First Part is mentioned, being put to Death by Parismus, and the suffering Princess rescued, by her dear Lord, from their barbarous hands; this poor Woman, supposing the danger to be over, and designing to carry the Child back to the Mother, in the way, meeting with a Lion eager of Prey, threw down the Babe; but the cruel Beast smelling to it, and finding it of Royal Blood, left it, and pursued the poor flying Wretch, whom he soon overtook and devoured; so that after this Child, who

was

was about three Years old, not knowing whence he came nor where to go, thought that Forrest to be all the World, and therefore wandred up and down in it, and feeding upon what Providence sent; and in this condition he lived till he grew up to Man's Estate; then, being weary one day, and reposing in the Cave where he had been nursed, he fancied, in his Dream, that his Nurse appeared to him, and led him by the hand to a fair Castle, wherein he beheld abundance of fine People, who entertained him with curious Delicates, harmonious Sounds, and all other things that were both delightful and pleasant to his thoughts; waking, he much pondered upon these things, and found himself delighted with the thoughts of them, when immediately, as he was making, a young Bear started out of a Brake, the chase of which he followed, with only his hunting-pole in his hand; this Beast flying still before him, and out-stripping him, came to the edge of the Forrest, and in the Plain, being more nimble of foot, he soon overtook and destroyed him, taking the Skin, which he fleyed off with a sharp flint-stone, as his spoil, and feeding on part of the Car-

cass,

cass. But now, being out of the Forrest, which he had never been before, he thought himself in a strange Country, and finding it pleasant, resolved to ramble; which he did, so long till he came within sight of a fair Castle, which he fancied to be the same he had seen in his Dream, and which had made so great an impression in his Mind; so that he resolved to go to it, and with much difficulty assended the steep rocky Stairs; but then he must pass the Guard, who used him very roughly; yet with his mighty Staff, like Hercules, he broke his way, laying two or three of them at his feet, which put all in an uproar, but encompassing and taking him Prisoner, by his Discourse and Behaviour, finding he must be one that was mad, or savagely brought up in the Woods, they offered him no further violence, but for his Valour entertained him amongst them, to his great Delight and Contentment; having changed the society of Beasts now for that of Men, and a different Habitation.

One day discoursing with the chief of them, and hearing there were other Countries besides this, wherein many noble Ans of Chivalry were performed, his

Courage

Courage was so enamed, that he was restless, till he had engaged Tiresut, the the Chief of them, to promise to carry him with him into other Lands; when the Ships set out, that he might seek Adventures; and he accordingly consented, but in their sailing they were set on by Moorish Pyrates, where he stood them in great stead, beating the storming Enemy into the Sea by scores, till at last a mighty tempest arrising, ended the Fight, yet brought them into worse Danger, by beating the Vessels in pieces on Rocks and Quicksands; in which Shipwreck, almost all were drowned; but Providence saved this Prince, after two days floating on a broken Mast, that carried him on shore in Thrace, almost dead by reason of the wounds he received in the Fight, and the fateague on the bring Waves; but in this despairing condition being taken into favour by Duke Amasenus, upon relating to him the Story of his Life, and the doubtfulness of his Birth, and Parentage, he was called by him, The Knight of Fame; after he had knighted him, and put him in an Equipage of Chivalry.

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

How Parismenos, gaining the Loke of the Duke, was envied by his Courtiers; how they conspired against his Life, and how notably he was revenged of them, wherein his great Valour appeared to his high Renown; how Pollipus in his search of Violetta, was, after a bloody Fight, taken Prisoner by the Giant Brandamore, and confined in his Castle; how Archas would have ravished Violetta, and by what means she escaped from his Castle.

BEing now in the Thracian Court, when he had made a fuller Relation of his Story, but could give no account of his Name, Parentage, or the Country he was bred up in; the Duke, at the insinuation of Chorus, a Knight of the Court, who feared Parismenos might eclipse his Courage, and the Name he had undeservedly gotten, began to have him in distrust; but upon the plain Answers he made him, being convinced of his Innocence, and that he was no Pirate or Spy, as the other had suggested, he reproved the envious Courtiers, and carrying Parismenos with him to many great Entertainments, it provoked

ked Chorus so much, that he sent the Prince a Challenge; and he intreating the Duke's leave to enter the Combate with him, it was consented to; and so in a long and bloody Combat he slew his Adversary, which gained him much Love of the common sort of People, especially, because that Lord was the most Haughty, Proud, and Injurious Person in the Country.

After this, the Duke's Opinion of him encreased, but for that cause the Knights of the Court envied him; but more particularly, because the Ladies had cast their Eyes on him, and highly approved his comely Personage, Beauty, and courteous Behaviour, which shewed him to be of no mean Birth, fearing that he would win all the Honour and Love, and leave them frustrated of their Expectations.

Among these Knights was Argulus, a Kinsman to Chorus, whom he had stain in fair Combate; this Man, to bring his Distruction the better to pass, made great shew of Friendship and Kindness to him, insinuating the more cunningly by the means of one Themidee, of whom Parisiennes had some good opinion, because the Duke favoured him; so between

tween them they perswaded him to the hunting of a mighty wild Boar who had destroyed many People and Cattle already. That if he employed his Valour in destroying it, his Fame would be renowned for ever. They well enough knew his forward Courage, and therefore expected his Compliance, which accordingly they obtained, and the next morning he appointed to meet them at a set hour by the Forrest-side; yet having had Dreams that night, and his Nose dropping blood in the morning, and he growing more sad than usual, his heart foreboding him that some Mischief was intended him: then he called to mind the frowning Countenances of the Courtiers towards him, and so being in a strange Country, he knew not well what to think on it; but having passed his Word, and scorning to give up his mind to fears, he mounted a gallant Steed the Duke had presented him withal, and riding on, in a hunting manner, he at some distance espied a Damozel, with her hair about her Ears, riding towards him, with pitious outcries, as if she had been pursued; when coming up to him, Courteous Knight, said she, wringing her hands, and letting feigned

tears fall from her eyes, if you have any pity or the Distressed, right my Wrongs on two injurious Men, Knights I dare not stile them, for had they any Honour, they would not have used me thus. Then she told him a feigned story, how she was going to Duke Amalfonus, with a Letter from a Person of great Honour, that they had taken it away from her, and cuffed her of other things, &c. the innocent Prince believing this, bid her direct him to them, and he would force them to give her Satisfaction.

She had no sooner led him into a narrow Lane, but he shewed him two Knights in green Armour, to whom he rode up, and having upbraided them for their uncourteous Behaviour, they answered him as roughly, whereupon charging his Spear against one of them, he threw him to the ground Horse and all, where he lay helpless; and being about to charge on the other, he found himself beset by divers Knights, who all at once rushed upon him before and behind, not regarding the Laws of Chivalry, wherefore perceiving the Damozel to be gone, he found it a Plot laid to bring him into an Ambush, and to murther him; yet he resolved they should buy his Life at

at a very dear rate, so laying about him furiously, he with many Wounds and great loss of Blood brought all but one to the ground, and he being about to fly, Parismenos pursuing him, by his voice he knew him to be Argalus, saying, Ah Traytor! am I the Boar you designed to hunt to Death? however, Dissembler, thou shalt pay dearly for it; and thereupon with a mighty blow he tumbled him dead from his Horse; and being weary with fighting and loss of blood, soon after fainted and fell down himself as dead, and there had died, had not the Duke, missing him so long, and fearing some new Quarrels, come with his Guard in search of him, and finding him in that condition, conveyed the dead Bodies and him to the City, ordering his Physicians to take all manner of care for his Recovery; so that by their Skill and Diligence he was soon brought to himself, and related the Treachery designed against his Life; which greatly grieved the Duke but finding he had so notably revenged himself on his Adversaries, he not only praised his Valour, but was comforted with the success he had in over-coming them, that so basely sought to destroy him, enter-

taining him in his Court as if he had been his own Son, and commanding all Respects and Civilities to be shewn him by his Courtiers: where, for a time, we must leave him in the highest Caresses that good Prince was capable of bestowing on him, and return to our former Adventurers.

Pollipus, having lost his dearly beloved Violetta, made such moan for her, that all exceedingly pitied him: he frequented Woods and lonely Places in search of her, leaving no place unsearched where there was any probability of her being retired, or restrained, in which he con-
vers great Dangers and Hazards by wild Beasts, Giants, and Knights he encountered with, in Searching several subjects Castles, where he thought the might be confined: yet Fortune, who still delighted to be cruel to these Lovers, directed Rainbow to that, where in she was; but to make his Misery the more, he came to that of the monstrous Giant Brandamore, where, by odds of Number, after a cruel Fight, wherein he behaved himself with all the Courage and Bravery imaginable, killing divers Knights, beaten down by the Giant's huge Mace; he was taken up as dead,

faint-

fainting through his Wounds and great Effusion of Blood, and so carried Prisoner into the Castle, and there left to bewail his cruel Captivity in Irons, till rescued by friendly hands, as shall be hereafter related.

Violetta being now in Archas's Castle, that cruel Tyrant casting his lascivious Eyes upon her admirable Beauty, used her at first with all imaginable Kindness, entertaining her with the deep Expressions of his Love; but finding she was deaf to all his Entreaties, and spent her time in tears for her dear Knight Pollipus, whom he in vain perswaded her to believe was slain by a wild Boar, he resolved, in a despair of ever gaining her content, to enjoy her delicate Body by force; and so, taking an opportunity to surprize her in an Arbor where she usually retired to weep, and bemoan her hard Fortune, after he had used all the Perswasions he could utter to induce her to a Compliance, and finding her inflexible, he told her it was but in vain to remain obstinate, for being in his power, he resolved to serve himself; and therefore twisting one hand rudely in her golden hair, with the other he proceeded to handle her in a rude unseemly man-

ner; but she who had rather die then lose her Honour, struggled with all her force to prevent it, but that proving too weak, she sent forth such vitious shrieks and crys as brought thither Sorana, a Woman belonging to the Castle, at whose approach, Shame made the lustful Tyrant quit his hold and retire, leaving fair Violetta pale, faint, and almost breathless on the ground; yet resolved not to give over his purpose, but take a more seasonable opportunity to accomplish it.

This Woman conveyed the sorrowful Lady to her Chamber, and comforted her in the best wise; when being come to herself, and having tenderly embraced her, and returned Thanks for the timely Rescue she had given her, she entreated her, with tears, that she would find some way for her Escape; but she told her she herself, in her Youth and Beauty, had been brought thither on the like manner, and that Archas had forced her to his Lust, and yet having had this Pleasure of her, made now little Account of her; wherefore, if it lay in her power, she would contribute to her Escape; but it would prove very difficult, seeing that there was but one way to the Castle, and that was always guarded, and none

admit-

about, change Cloaths with her, put in her Bed and deceive the Tyrant, whilst, by the Disguise and Token, she might escape. This was put in practice, and

luckily succeeded; tho', when the flight of Violetta was discovered, and that instead of so heavenly a Creature, he had all night embrazed one of his cast off Mistresses; he grew in such a Rage, that, drawing his Sword, he immediately struck off the Head of poor Sorana, amidst her pitiously Cries and Entreaties for Mercy; which, when Violetta afterward heard, it much grieved her, she had lost her Life in undertaking her Safety; however, fearing Pursuit, she fled as fast as she could, by unfrequented ways, till at last she met with an old Hermit, who hearing her sad Relation, and taking pity of her, conducted her to his Cave, and refreshed her with such poor Entertainment as he had; and then, at her entreaty, undertook to be her Guide to the Bohemian Court; but by the way he died, leaving her full of Fears and Perplexity in the midst of a large Wilderness; but at the last, Providence brought her to a friendly Castle, where she found a Lady as sorrowful as herself, the occasion of which shall be mentioned in our place.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

How Parismus departed in search of Pollipus and Violetta; how Parismenos, in the Justs, won Philena, the King of Thrace's fair Daughter, and being warned of it in a Vision, he resigned her to Ethemus, to whom she was secretly betrothed before; how Violetta bemoaned her absent Lover; how he was Rescued from Brandamore's Castle, where the Giant was slain; and how Venola, the King of Libia's Daughter, fell in Love with Parismenos, but was refused by him, &c.

NOw Parismus, having promised Pollipus to follow him in search of his beloved Lady, contrary to the tears and entreaties of his beautiful Princess, leaving her [illegible] embraces, early in the morning set forward, accompanied with Tollinus and Bacillus, two valiant Knights, and though they sought in all Towns and Forests they could imagine, yet hearing no news of him, coming unto a blazen Pillar, where the Road divided, they resolved to part several ways the sooner, if possible to accomplish their Undertaking.

While

Whilst these things happened, Parismenos, continuing with his good Friend the Duke Amasenus, and hearing the King of Thrace had appointed great Justs, or Tournaments, and that the Prize to the Victor was no less than his fair Daughter Philena, his heart was enflamed with a desire of Glory; and imparting it unto the Duke, he encouraged him to try his Fortune, and if he succeeded, notwithstanding he was a Stranger, and many Princes earnestly loa'd the Royal Maid, yet he need not fear but he would make such interest with the King that he should be accepted his Son-in-law; and hereupon he provided him rich and new Armour, shadowed with a Golden Forrest, and a Naked Man in it leading a Lion, with this Motto, viz. Over-grown with Discontent.

The appointed day being come, which were to be three; a great many Tents of Kings, Princes, and Valiant Knights were pitched on the Plains, so that they made a very glorious sight; amongst these were Rhemus, a Knight who dearly loved the fair Princess, and to whom she had promised her Love; this Knight was much dejected, as fearing his success, upon which all his Happiness

bowing low, and kissing her fair hand, he returned his most humble Thanks, but without said, Divine Princess, how shall I think myself worthy, who am but a Stranger, of so great a Blessing, which the whole business of my life should have been carefully employed to have deserved? However, I beseech your Highness to esteem me as One that is devoted for ever to your Service; yet, be assured, dear Lady, I will never consider any thing of Right I have, by gaining you the way I have done, but freely resign that Title, and leave it to your Choice, resolving to do nothing without your free consent; hoping, by the Service I shall do you, to gain that Love which at present I scarce dare hope, as having no just Pretentions to so high a Favour and Blessedness.

The Princess upon this, returned him her humble Thanks, that he left her Inclination free, tho' he might have said claim to her by her Father's Promise, and was mightily pleased with his modest Behaviour; and so they went to the splendid Entertainment prepar'd for 'em, she concluding to take another opportunity to tell him of her Preingagement in Love to Noble Rhemus. But Prince Parismenos being in bed, and musing of what had happened in the foregoing Adventures,

ventures, which caused him to hug himself in a world of joy, he fell into a sweet slumber, and then a bright and glorious Dream appeared to him, he fancied he saw the Goddess Venus, all heavenly fair, holding a Lady in her hand of most incomparable Beauty, that our-shined all he had ever beheld, as much as the blazing Sun at Noon does excel in Brightness and Glory the lesser Fires that bespangle the arched Skies: And whilst he was thus cavished with Joy to behold the late One, the Goddess thus uttered her mind:

Renowned Knight, thy second Name
Is rightly stil'd, The Knight of Fame;
Fam'd shalt thou be, thy Deeds shall crown
Thy Brows with Honour and Renown;
But yet the Destinies decree,
Thy Bride Philenia must not be;
She to Arbenius gives her Heart,
And you true Lovers must not part:
But see, I have provided One,
The Fairest that the World has known;
She is thy Lot, after long Toil,
Her Love shall make thee ever smile;
Then seek her out, and you shall find
An Angel beautiful and kind.

Up-

Upon this they disappeared, and when he awaked, he found his heart enflamed with the bright Idea he had beheld in his Dream, yet fancied that no Mortal could be so divinely beautiful, which put him into many Doubts and Fears; yet his mind so run upon it, that nothing could move it, and therefore he resolved to go in search of her; And now the appointed day of marriage being come, and the Princess and he at the Altar, to the admiration of all, when the Priest was going to joyn their hands, Rhemus stood mournfully by, he surrendered fair Philena up to him, and so far prevailed with the King her Father, by discovering the long and constant love they had for each other, that he yielded his consent to their marriage; at which the overjoyed Lord Rhemus embraced him with tears, vowing, at the hazard of his life, to serve him for so unparallel'd Generosity and Bravery of Mind; and so, being highly treated and caressed of all, in a short time after he took his leave of the Court, in search of the beautiful Lady, who had by this time altogether taken up his thoughts.

Violetta being all this while in the Castle of Refuge, with the sorrowful Lady

Clarina,

Clarina, heard the relation of her Grief, which was, That the cruel Giant Brandamore, in the Forrest of Ard, had slain her Father, and taken Madera, her Mother, Prisoner, and that she, by her Brother Pavimus's courage, had only so much time as to 'scape his lust, telling such a mournful Story, that Violetta could not refrain from tears, sympathizing with her in her woful sadness; and then related unto her all her own Misfortunes, desiring that she might have some Guide to conduct her to the Bohemian Court, in hopes to hear there of her dear Pollipus. The sorrowful Clarina, moved likewise to compassion, promised to assist her in this, or any thing else she should require, and also to engage her Brother to be her Conductor, when she intended to depart, but intreated her it might not be yet. Whilst this Discourse lasted, Pavimus came in and salured his Sister, who had no sooner given him an account of Violetta's Misfortunes, and desiring her to describe to him her Knight; he told her, to her great joy and satisfaction, that he had lately seen him in the Forrest of Ard, but whither he went afterward he knew not; yet at her request, he promised to endeavour to find him out, if she would continue there for

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some time with his Sister; which he agreed to, and so the courteous Knight mounted the next morning to perform his promise; he had not rode far, before he met Tellamore, a Bohemian Knight, one of those that parted from Parismus in search of Violetta, and supposing him to be Pollipus, he asked him so many questions, that being well satisfied who he was, he tells him of Violetta's Safety, and how Dangers he had escaped, and that she was then at his Castle, in company of his Sister Clarina, inviting him kindly thither, that he might be an comfort the distressed Lady, but in the Forest losing their way, they came accidentally into a pleasant Valley, where stood a spacious Tower that glittered like Gold, and for the Beauty and Magnificence of it, was called, The Golden Tower; where Maximus, King of Natolia, keeping his beautiful Daughter Angelica, guarded by a thousand choice Knights, and attended by a hundred Ladies; upon the account of a Prophecy made by an Enchantress at her Birth, That Kings and Princes contending for her, should not only waste his Country by War, but even betray his Life. And this was that fair Lady the Fates designed for Prince Parismenos, as

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in the Sequel will appear; and here they found Barzillus, fighting with a Knight that kept a Tent at the Bridge-foot of the Tower; to forbid entrance to all without leave, the quarrel arising upon his setting light by the Lady's Beauty, but Barzillus having put that Knight to the foil, they parted good Friends; and so he went with Tellamore and Pavimus to comfort Violetta, who was overjoy'd to see 'em. And here Tellamore fell in love with the fair Clarina, and promised to go with the other two Knights, and let the Lady Madera, her Mother, free from the Cruelty of the Giant Brandamore; the first they met with was Argalt, the Giant's Brother, who had been out on the scout, searching the Forrest to see if any Knights were in it, and to give the Giant an account of them; for of late many Lybian Knights had attempted, tho' in vain, to rescue the beautiful Venola, the King of Lybia's Daughter, whom Brandamore had taken, and kept Prisoner, in hopes to gain her to his lust, by her consent; but she all along resisted his Threats and Flatteries. They supposing this Man, by his great stature, to be the Giant, Tellamore thereupon spurring on before the rest, came up with him,

and put him to the ſtand; at which Argalt growing angry, he very ſtoutly demanded who he was, that durſt preſume to come on forbidden Ground: I come, replied he, to Defie thee, Tyrant, that dareſt to examine and diſturb Paſſengers, with the danger of their lives; and to ſet at liberty a Lady thou haſt baſely impriſoned; and, I ſuppoſe, a Knight, who is my Friend, that was not long ſince in this Forreſt, and now is miſſing. At this he began ſcoffingly to anſwer him, as in diſdain; ſo that the Knight being enraged, a fierce Combate happened between them, but Tellamore's Sword breaking, and he being at the Giant's mercy, the other Knights came in, ſo that aſſailing him on all ſides, they with many grievous blows brought him to the ground; then, crying out to them in a pitious manner to ſave his life, he told them he was not Brandamore, as he believed they ſuppoſed, but his Brother, and would (ſo they ſpared taking off his head, which they were about to do,) be ſerviceable to them in any thing they would deſire: Then he told them that Polipus was Priſoner in the Caſtle, and that he would not only prevail for his deliverance, but the Lady Madera's likewiſe; having ſworn to do this, and they ſeeing

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the Castle very strong, they suffered him to depart; but being got into the Castle, he defied them, and violated his Oath: This so enraged the three Knights, that coming up to the Bridge, they set upon the Giant's Guards, and made a great slaughter of them, insomuch that Brandamore issued out with a great Train, and thereupon ensued a bloody and doubtful Combat for many hours; but then, the Knights weary with killing and laying on mighty blows, as also faint through the loss of blood, began to give ground; but Providence so ordered it, that at that very instant Parismus luckily came in to their assistance, and knowing two of 'em by the Device of their Armour, rushed in and laid such heavy stroaks upon Brandamore, that he staggered many paces; so that the others having time to take breath, the Combat was again renewed, and as fierce as ever; but the Giant sending for fresh Supplies, the Knights had been worsted, had not an unknown Knight accidentally come to their relief, who laid about him with such fury, that none could stand before him; whereupon the Giant retiring, and thinking to repass the Bridge, he pursued him so close that he forced him to leap into the Moat,

where, by the weight of his Armour, he was drowned: Then, entring the Castle, they found Pollipus had got his Chains off, and with an Iron-bar killing his Keepers, in order to come to their assistance; then they embraced him with much joy, and told him the happy News of Violetta's Safety; which was to him the most welcome News in the World. Then they comforted the Ladies; after this, their Wounds were dressed, and refreshing themselves with such things as they found in the Castle, they all embraced the last unknown Knight, that came so timely to their assistance: And he the mean while casting his eyes on the Lady Venola, at first supposed it was she that was presented to him in his Vision, and that now his Travels were at an end; but, alas, he had more Troubles to undergo before Fate would be so kind to him. And so, having rested there that night, and left the Castle in safe hands, they departed to see Violetta, Pollipus being so impatient that he thought every hour an age till he was in her company; the meeting of these long-absent Lovers was with such joy as cannot be easily expressed, she hung about his neck, and bedewed his comely face with tears; and

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he almost stifled her with kisses. And Tellamore, who was in love with Clarina, was not a little overjoyed to see her dry up her tears and look pleasant, when he told her her Mother was at liberty; and long it was not before he revealed his passion to her, and had a very favourable answer returned him; which was, That when she had tried his Constancy, he need not doubt of her good Opinion, and be preferred in her Esteem before any other. So that now every thing seemed very pleasant, and promised great Prosperity. But Venola, the King of Lybia's only Daughter, being desirous to return to her Father's Court, the Knight of Fame, who was he that came last into the Combat, against the Giant, would needs accompany her, and was received by that King with all the demonstrations of Joy and Gratitude; and doing many noble Exploits there, the whole Country rung of his Valour; insomuch that the fair Princess casting her eyes upon him, and contemplating his beauty and comely stature, his courteous behaviour and ingenious carriage, from liking she fell to loving, and that in so deep a manner, that finding him resolved to depart, she shut herself into her Chamber, bathing

her face in tears, and making many grievous complaints: which Flavia, her Nurse, over-hearing, went in to her, and with many entreaties, under the Protestation of keeping it secret, found out the cause of her sorrow; and so, to quiet her tender heart, she undertook, in some measure, to give her some kind of ease, by staying him longer in the Court: which she did, by giving him a speedy Potion, and writing a Letter to his Companions, that he had a secret business to undertake, and they should not enquire after him, for at that time he could not go with them, but would follow them in a short space.

This took effectually, for he sleeping a day and a night, they went away without him; and at last the fair Princess, with grief and moving tears, expressed her excess of Love to him, that he could not forbear weeping, because he could not answer her Desires and Deservings, in giving her that heart which was destined for another; and therefore, not being able by his Reasons and Arguments to pacifie her Sorrow, and ease her troubled Mind, he thought his absence might best do it, and thereupon he secretly left the Court, leaving her in such Agonies and

Afflictions, as moved the hardest Heart to relent, especially when she heard that he had withdrawn himself: And in this lamentable Condition we are constrained to leave her, and follow him on his Journey and strange Adventures.

CHAP. V.

How Parismenos, having left the Lybian Court, came to the Valley of the Golden Tower, where he found an opportunity to Address himself to the Fair Angelica, the Lady he had seen in his Dream, and the Discourse that passed between them; how he jested with divers of her Knights about a Glove she had given him as a Favour, and was at the Entreaty of Marcellus, King Maximus's Son, taken into her Service; and how his Courtship was discovered, whereupon the Princess was confined, and he fell into the King's Displeasure.

PArismenos early in the morning, having secretly left the Lybian Court, and the fair Princess over-whelmed in sighs and tears, rode very pensive on, debating with himself about his future Fortune, till he came to a pleasant Valley near the Golden Tower, and there so

great a Drowsiness overcame him, that he found himself constrained to alight, and tying his Horse to a Tree, laid him down on a mossey Bank, to refresh his weary limbs; whilst this Drowsiness lasted, and he lay in this posture, the heavenly fair Princess Angelica came by that way with a great Train of Ladies and Knights from the Tower, which he, by reason of his Heaviness, had not yet discovered, she then going to meet Maximus King of Natolia, her Father, who, with his Queen, and Son Marcellus, was coming to pass some time in that curious Building, that abounded with all manner of Pleasures; and so fortunately it happened, that the lovely Angelica cast her head aside, and perceiving there so goodly a proportioned Knight, in rich Armour, she sent one of her Guard to rouze him, or see if any harm had befallen him: At the touch of the Knight's Launce, and the noise of the Trumpets, the Knight of Fame soon waked, and standing on his feet, he no sooner saw this divine Creature, but he knew her to be the same that had been presented to him by the Goddess in his Dream; this made his heart leap for joy, and him earnestly to demand of the Knight where the place

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of her abroad was, and her Name; who very courteously told him, as also upon what occasion she came forth; whereupon he returned him his hearty Thanks, and so he retired to his Fellows.

Parismenos having now seen what he long had earnestly wished to have a sight of, was like one transported; yet fancied to himself, that only seeing her, without speaking, would not advance him to the Happiness he expected; wherefore, putting on the utmost of his Courage, he thought he might not have a more favourable time than this, and so strong his fancy wrought, that it would be difficult to meet with such another, that thrusting in among the Knights of her Guard, bowing one knee to the ground, he begged first her Pardon, and then that she would be favourably pleased to hear him in a few words; and having leave granted, he thus expressed himself: Most excellent Lady, the Pattern of all Beauty and Vertue, if a Stranger (who has travelled so far, and undergone so many Hazards and Dangers to have the Felicity of beholding your Divine Perfections, which exceed all mortal Things, and all other Blessings in the World,) may presume upon your Goodness, I humbly make it my Request, That you will com-

command me as your Servant, let the Task be never so difficult, or dangerous; try my Obedience in it, and my Recompence shall be, that I have done something to please you, to whom my Life is wholly devoted.

The fair Princess, whilst he uttered these words, marking his comely Proportion, and bravery of Mind, could not but admire his Courage, that not taking notice of her Guards, durst so boldly intrude into her Presence; and thereupon replied, That he being a Stranger, as he professed, he had done rashly to press so close upon her, and that with a kind of Flattery; which, however, her good nature would not suffer her to resent it as an Affront: But as to the Service he proffered, she had Servants enough, nor could she entertain any without her Father's approbation; but she believed if she should put him to it, in many cases she should find his Words but Boastings, as it had happened by many others.

The Couragious Prince boldly protested, That there was nothing that either Help or Valour could perform, but he would endeavour it to satisfie her. Hereupon she dropt her Glove, which he dutifully took up, and, with a low Congy, pro-

presented it to her; but she refused it, offering him to keep it as a favour: This he knew would move some of her envious Knights to try his Courage; which failed not, for one of the chief of them, named Collimus, followed him when he retired, and in a threatning manner demanded the Princess's Glove, of which great Favour he told him, himself was more worthy than he; at this the noble Parismenos smiled, and said, I esteem it so highly, that nothing but the Princess's absolute Command shall charm it from me: And as for your Worth, I am unacquainted with it, yet doubt not, if the Princess will receive me into her Service and Favour, but to perform as much as you have done, if not exceed you. This enraged the proud and haughty Knight to that degree, that he challenged him to a present Combat, the which he the more respected at, because it would be performed in his Lady's sight; but the valiant Prince at the first shock tumbled him from his Horse head long; and so he served three or four more that went about to revenge their Fellow's Disgrace, whereupon a great number were about to fall upon him; but now King Maximus being come up with his Train, and seeing the Contest, sent immediate

mediate Orders they should cease, and to bring the strange Knights before him: and when he had examined into the business and found him innocent, he blamed the others, and commended his Courage and Bravery: And at the intreaty of Marcellus, the King's Son, and the good-liking of the Princess Angelica, he was received into the King's Service; which he took as a happy Forerunner of his serving himself with his fair Mistress; and so they went altogether to the Golden Tower, and there the young Prince of Natolia entered into so strict a Friendship with him, that nothing but Death could separate them. Here the Entertainment was very noble, and having his Helm off, he found by the Princess's often fixing her Eyes on him, he was not indifferent to her.

Being arrived at the Golden Tower, sumptuous Entertainments were ordered, and tho' Camillus and divers other Princes, as well as the Knight of Fame, were there, so jealous was the King of the Fair Angelica, that he divided the Tables, ordering the Queen to feast the Ladies in another Apartment; which, at this time, made our Knight lose the opportunity of feasting on her Beauties,

which

hich he would have done, had she been
ere, more than on the Dainties; yet,
dissembled his sorrow for this one dis-
ppointment; tho' he perceived Camil-
was so uneasie and concerned at it,
at the King took notice of him; and
e Feasting being ended, with great
oyalty, he took occasion to tell him of
e suspition he had, that he came to
urt his Daughter; but he dissembled
as well as he could, yet being of a
aughty mind, he was very much in-
ardly displeased, and soon after, upon
me Affronts, hearing the King abso-
utely intended not to Marry her to any,
y reason of the foolish Prophecy, as he
rmed it; he left the Court in a Pet, re-
lving to bring armed Forces and take
er by Violence.

During these passages, the divine An-
elica had, above all others, considered
he lovely Features, manly Limbs, and
ourteous Behaviour of the Knight of
ame; so that indulging her Fancy, her
Mind was so strangely disorder'd, that
e knew not what the meaning of it
ould be; and in her Retirements great-
y bewailing her sudden Alteration,
earing that now Love had wounded her
ender Heart, which before had been a

Stranger

Stranger to any such Passion; which Blushings, and then Paleness, and then Blushings again, Anna, her Maid, who was her chief Favourite and Confident perceiving, so prest her with intreaties, and tears in her Eyes, not to hide from her the cause of her disordered Mind; that the Princess, upon the Maid's vowing to keep it secret, revealed all that had befallen her from the first time she beheld the Knight of Fame: whereat, Anna confirmed to her it could be nothing but the growing Seeds of Love sown in her Heart; and, withal, so extolled the Vertues of the Prince, recounting the noble Deeds he had done in Thrace, the Forrest of Ard, the Lybian Court, and many other places, and also how he was sent, by a superiour Command, to be her Servant; she conceived so good a liking of him, that soon after he came along with her Brother to pay her a private Visit, in her Chamber; she received him with very gracious Eyes, and gave him such Answers to his submissive Addresses, as over-joyed his Heart; so that he thought there was no Creature living more happy than himself, as having in so short a space obtained the Favour, and by a great pro-

spect

speak the Consent of the most beautiful Lady that ever Nature formed; but as nothing is certain, for frequently in the highth of our Joys and Expectations, some crosse Accident happens, and dashes all again; sudden black Clouds and Storms eclipse the clearest Skies; so happened it in this case, for Collimus, who was in Love with the Princess, though he had not as yet made any advances that way, for fear of her displeasure, ill relenting the Favour she had done the Knight of Fame, in bestowing her Glove on him, and fancying the truth of the matter, had now by his Spies, discovered this secret Interview, and made it known to the King, which so inraged him, that the Princess was clapt up close Prisoner, under a Guard, of which the Parasite was made Captain, with a strict Command to suffer none to enter without the Royal Signet. The Knight of Fame was not only much reviled by the King, but fell extreamly into his displeasure; but this nothing grieved him, compared with the sorrow he conceived for the confinement of the Princess; yet Prince Marcellus, though the King gave him sharp Rebukes for suffering him to speak with his Sister,

some

comforted him in the best manner, bidding him not at all despair, for he would farther his Love, and so bring it about, when the King's Passion was over, not only to release his Sister, but restore him again to Favour.

The Princess, in her Confinement, was as much perplexed as he, grieving the King should offer such Indignity to one that had never injured him, but appeared to be one of the courteousest Knights in the World; and tho' she looked lovely in tears, she injured her beauteous Face in often shedding them, and complaining of her hard Destiny; nor could she rest, though Anna did all she could to comfort her with gentle Speeches and Perswasions, till she had sent her to learn how the Knight took the King's Anger; but with all, ordered her to do it secretly that he might not know she had taken any care about it.

And now, whilst Marcellus was labouring to restore them to their late Happiness, a cross Wind, from an unexpected Coast, shipwrack'd all their Hopes, and drove them on the Quick-sands of Despair, as will appear in the next Chapter.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

How, upon a false Accusation of the King of Lybia, sent to inform Maximus, he had Ravished his Daughter Venola, and desiring him to take Revenge, he was cast into the Lion's Den to be devoured, and by what wonderful means he escaped; how joyfully Marcellus and the Princess received him, and of the strange Disappointment that after befel them; how Parismenos came, by a wonderful means, to the knowledge of his Royal Parents, and other matters.

TO the former Cross of the Royal Lovers, greater yet ensued, which went very near to destroy all their Happiness; you have heard how the Princess Venola, Daughter to the King of Lybia, having been freed from Brandamore's Castle, by the Knight of Fame, fell desperately in Love with him, and how he secretly departed to avoid her importunities: She no sooner had notice from Flavia, her Maid, but hereupon tormenting herself with grief and rage to be so defeated, she fell into a dangerous Sickness, to the great perplexity of the King her Father, who

dearly loved her; no care was wanting to recover her, but her bodily Disease being fed by that of the mind, deriding all Art, brought her for a long time in a very low condition; when in the mean while News was brought her, that the Knight she loved was in the Natolian Court, and what else had passed on the occasion of his Love to Angelica. This Lady was naturally proud, and fearing to be slighted for another, whose beauty she knew not but might be inferiour to hers, and thereupon an anger of mind arose in her, to that degree that over-powering the flame of Love converted her thoughts into studies of Revenge and implacable Hatred; which she communicating to Flavia, her Maid who had negotiated for her with Purimenos, she promised to further her therein; and in a little time took an opportunity to tell the King a false Story, with feigned tears, that his Daughter's Sickness proceeded from an Abuse and Outrage offered her by the Knight of Fame whom he had so kindly entertained in his Court, though he must unworthy of it: For, continued she, presuming upon the good Office he did the Princess, in rescuing her from the Giant's Castle, he at last grew bold

bold, on the civilities and respects she shewed him, and misconstruing her meaning therein, having her in a private Walk in the Garden, forcibly ravished her; and then for fear of punishment, secretly fled from Court, and is now in **Natolia**, at the **Golden Tower**, labouring to practice such another Villany on the Princess **Angelica**. But why, said the King, did not my Daughter discover this sooner? **Being in a very great rage, and storming up and down the Room:** Alas! said she, continuing her tears, shame withheld her from it, because that though she cried aloud none came timely to her rescue.

This plausible Story the King believed against the most virtuous Prince upon Earth; and immediately wrote a Letter to the King of Natolia, **to certifie him of the Abuse, and what an Imposture he had in his Court, who, no doubt, came to use his Daughter, by his sly Insinuations into her Affections, in the same dishonourable manner; which is such an Outrage to Princes Courts, that it is not to be born; and therefore, with many other aggravating Circumstances, intreated him to send the** Knight of Fame **bound to him, or that he would himself revenge an Injury reflecting so highly on all Princes, on the Person of the Traytor.**

King Maximus had no sooner read this, but his former Prejudice made him believe it; and therefore, without any examination farther, he secretly sent a strong Guard to apprehend him, and accordingly he was surprized in his Bed, and by the cruel Order they had, hurried him to the Lion's Den, into which he was cast, notwithstanding his appealing to Justice, and entreating he might be heard to clear his Honour, which he valued dearer than his Life.

Marcellus no sooner heard of this Outrage on his Friend, but like one distracted, he had like to have laid violent hands upon himself, and because Collimus refused him in going to carry the dreadful News to the deplorable Angelica, and he supposing he was the Man that had brought the Knight of Fame to this dismal end, he drew his Sword, and after a fierce Combat between them, forced his passage through his Heart. The fair Angelica no sooner heard the fatal sound from her Brother's lips, that the Man, whom she loved above all the World, was unjustly slain in a barbarous manner; but, forgetting her Duty, even at that time, which she had never been guilty of before, reproaching her

her Father with inhuman Tyranny, and burſting forth into loud Laments and Cryes, ſhe fell down as dead on the floor, which cauſed great weeping and lamentation among her Maids, till they ſaw, by the means they uſed her, Life returned again.

All this while Pariſmenos was alive in the Lion's Den, contrary to all expectation, for tho thoſe furious Beaſts kept a horrible roaring, and were very hungry, yet the ſcent of Royal Blood charmed them into mildneſs, according to the natural inſtinct of that noble Creature, that he had no hurt but by pinching Famine, which grew faſt upon him, ſo that he was forced to feed on the nauſeous Food that was thrown to the Lions in that dark and diſmal place; till at laſt, the Keeper drawing up the door of another Partition of the Den for them to enter into, whilſt he cleaned that wherein they were, and driving them into it with a long Pole, he came down by a ladder of Ropes, having a pully faſtened to the top, to draw up the excrements, not dreaming of Pariſmenos being alive; but he was no ſooner on the ground, but the poor half-ſtarved Prince, creeping from a dark corner of the Cave, ſeized

his Sword, and clapping it to his breast, told him he was a dead Man, if he offered to cry out. The poor amazed Wretch, not knowing what to think of this sudden surprize, trembling, fell on his knees and intreated he would not kill him, and whatsoever he desired he would perform to the utmost of his power. Then the Prince declared to him his innocency, and by what Miracle he had been saved by the Lions, and that now, all the People concluding him dead, he requested only of him, that he would convey him privately to his House, and swear secrecy. This he solemnly promised, whereupon, to chain him the surer to his interest, he gave him store of Gold; and he was after very faithful to him, contriving it so, that Prince Marcellus came to him; and soon after, to her great joy the Princess, who had so long bewailed his Death, had News from her Brother of his wonderful Deliverance, which, without great difficulty, she could not believe, thinking it an invented story to hush her Sorrows; but at last, confirmed of it, by his sending the Glove she had given him, her Sorrows was turned into Joy and Comfort, and she resolved to escape, if possible, and go with

him

him into Bohemia: And therefore, secretly order'd him to retire to a Hermit's Cell, four miles from the Golden Tower, and, using Marcellus's Name, he should be kindly entertained by the Hermit, and that she would endeavour to escape and come to him.

This Mandate with Joy he obeyed, and found by the Token good Entertainment; but, alas, another cross Accident happened, for though her first hopes promised fair, the latter frustrated all; it so fell out, that Maximus knowing Camillus to be retired into his own Country, and the Knight of Fame he supposed to be dead, began to remove his fears, and, at the instance of his Queen, to compassionate his Daughter's sufferings, and going to her, after a little chiding her for her folly in setling her love on she knew not who, he comforted her in the best manner he could, and to hush her sorrows, proposed she should go with him a Hunting, charging Marcellus to attend her with a Guard; so that now they thought their Stars smiled on them: The time being come, they set out with a very splended Train, the Guard her Brother had appointed being all his Friends, who promised to do whatever he should direct;

so they lagged behind the King and the rest, to make their escape, when they were eager in pursuit of the Game; but, unluckily for them, they fell into an Ambush Camillus, who was returned, had laid, upon notice they were to hunt that day; but so well the Prince and his Knights defended her, that the Assailing were beat off, and forced to retire; yet the noise of the fight brought the King thither, and immediately the Dogs were called in, the Hunting left off, and the Princess, to her great sorrow, reconveyed to the Golden Tower. This was unknown to Parismenos, wherefore wandring abroad to enquire for News, seeing he had waited several days in vain, he was discovered by two of Maximus's Knights, who fled from him, supposing it was his Ghost, seeing every body concluded him dead; yet thinking he should be by them discovered, weighing all circumstances in his mind, and thinking it might prove prejudicial to his Princess, he resolved to leave a Letter with the Hermet for Mercellus, and another for his beloved Lady, with the Promise of a speedy Return, when things should be beter settled, and so pass to Bohemia, to keep his Promise with Parismus, and require his Advice

and

and Aid in this Enterprize, seeing, tho' the many changes and difficulties that happened, he found himself not very capable of performing it alone.

This being put in practice, he rode sad and pensive thro' many desolate places, till he came to the Confines of Bohemia, where, in a Forrest, he heard a Lady make pitious cries; so, directed by the voice, he rushed in, and found a Knight armed, with a beautiful Lady prostrate at his feet, in order to ravish her; whereupon he defied him, crying, Uncourteous Knight, what is the meaning of this Outrage, contrary to the Law of Arms and Humanity? The other made no answer, but immediately mounting, charged him very furiously, but in the first encounter he was overthrown; upon which the Lady cried out, O let him not escape, it is the Tyrant Archas, that has wrought me so many Miseries, and filled the Country with his Villanies. Upon which, looking on her, he knew her to be Violetta, his Friend Pollipus's vertuous Lady; whereupon he made him his Prisoner, and led him, with Violetta, unto the Bohemian Court, where, disdaining to answer to the many Crimes and Outrages laid to his charge, and they being nevertheless ful-

ly

in proved against him, he was, by the King's command, beheaded, and his Castle demolished.

Here the Knight of Fame was welcomed with all imaginable Expressions of Joy, by Parismus and Laurana, to whom he gave an account of all his Adventures since he parted from the Thracian Court, and by what means he was detained there; when, accidentally opening his bosom, Laurana espied a Jewel hanging about his neck, which she knew she had left with her Son when he was taken from her in the Tartarian Island of Rocks, at which she looked pale and started; but whilst Parismus, who supposed some sudden Sickness had seized her, was going to take her into his arms, and enquire the cause of that alteration, a violent Thunder-clap broke over the Palace, and a mighty Tempest followed, with such Darkness that they could not see one another; at which the Ghost of his Nurse appeared, with a Taper in her hand, and expressed these words:

Prince of Bohemia, welcome home thy Son,
Who has for Fame so many Dangers run:
I saved his Life, [illegible] doom'd to die,
And from his cruel Foe did with him flie;

But

But I being slain, he Fortune did pursue,
Yet nothing who his Parents were he knew;
Therefore I am commanded to reveal,
What the kind Fates no longer will conceal.

Upon this, she vanished in a flame of fire, leaving them all in a great fright and consternation; but coming to themselves, and comparing all Circumstances, every thing was so agreeable, that there was no room for doubt: Laurana, transported at this, embraced him, and wept for joy, and Parismus could not refrain from tears; so that it was long e'er they could come to a free discourse again; which when they did, the News being spread over the Country, the universal Joy was so great that we shall not here undertake to describe it. And soon after this he made known his Love to the fair Princess Angelica, whereupon every one promised to assist him all they could in it.

CHAP.

CHAP. VII.

How **Parismenos** went again into **Natolia**, and the means he used to see his beautiful Princess, with whom, and **Mercellus**, he escaped to a Hermet's Cave; how they were discovered there by the means of an Eunuch; how the Princess **Angelica** was confined to streight Imprisonment, **Mercellus** banished, and **Parismenos** loaded with Irons and cast into a Dungeon, and by what means he escaped; how **Pollipus** and **Parismus** arrived with a mighty Army, and of the Battles that were fought with **Maximus's** Forces, &c.

Parismenos having thus far found happy success, to remove one main doubt in the truth of his Parents, as being descended of one of the noblest Families in Europe, was not a little rejoyced, as well because of the assistance he expected from such an Alliance, to further his Design, if occasion should require it, as for that he might the boldlier claim one of Royal Blood; but having setled every thing to his mind in that Court, his thoughts, which were still in the Golden Tower, with his beautiful Mistress, prompted him to be speedy in keeping his Promise

with

with her, lest she should doubt of his Constancy and Fidelity; and so, having communicated his Intention to his Father and Mother, his Reasons weighed so far with 'em, who well understood the Rules of Love and Honour, that they could not gainsay his Departure, though they dismissed him with tears.

The first place he went to, when he came into the Kingdom of Natolia, was to the Hermet's Cell, where he was kindly received by the good old Man, who had delivered his Letters, and told him all he knew of what had happened, for Marcellus a little after his departure, found an opportunity to withdraw himself from the Court, and come thither in disguise, being much troubled he had not found the Knight of Fame there; and by the means of this Hermet, who passed unsuspected on all occasions, the two noble Friends met in a Grove some distance from the Golden Tower, and afterwards come to his Cabe, where they told each other all that had befallen: Mercellus was exceeding glad to hear he was Son to Parismus, whose Fame and Renown had long before furnished the World with Discourse of his Valour and Vertues.

Having plentifully rewarded the Hermet

and for his kindness, and having got disguised habits, they resolved, in the night, to go to a little Village near the Golden Tower, where one Penora, who had been Nurse to Marcellus, dwelt, and in whose Secrecy he confided; here they contrived to steal away Angelica, and by counterfeiting the King's Letter, they both got admittance into the Golden Tower, and by it Parismenos was appointed, as a trusty Knight in whom the King had great Fidelity, Captain of the Guard, till his coming, or further Orders; the King's Signet was so artificially affixed to this Letter of Credence, that it passed all Scruple; so that behaving himself liberally and courteously, he soon gained all their loves, as likewise the Eunuch's, who kept the Door of the Lady's Chamber, and by that means got an opportunity to speak with her, by the help of Anna, her Maid, who, when she spied at the sight of him, could scarce be kept from Swooning in his Arms, but the time being short, and a discovery being made, might bring them in worse danger than ever; it was agreed, that Night, that he and Marcellus should convey her in one of the Eunuch's Appocel, which he had bribed to his interest, out

of

of the Castle, which he might the better do, by reason he kept the Key of the Out-Gates every night: To be brief, they made as happy a escape as Lovers could wish, had the Destinies consented; but, alas! more misery ensued. Those Eunuchs that were not privy to the design, fearing their Lives, made known her escape to the King, before they could get out of his reach, with the means, as far as they could guess, by which it was brought about; which made him haste to the Golden Tower, from his City of Epliesus, and send out his Guards everywhere to apprehend her; and such a confusion there was, that both Court and Country seemed to be in an Uproar; the King storm'd, and the Queen wept, especially when she knew her Son Marcellus had carried with him Dulcia, a Lady of the Court, of a mean Fortune, whom he had a long time courted, in order to make her a Princess and Queen, after the Death of his Father: Many days they sought, but no news could be had of them; for they shelter'd the Ladies in the Hermit's Cell; and their own disguise was such as they could not be easily discovered, having changed Armour with some Grecian Knights, who were

their

most by his kindness, and having got disguised habits, they resolved, in the night, to go to a little Village near the Golden Tower, where one Penora, who had been Nurse to Marcellus, dwelt, and in whose Secrecy he confided; here they contrived to steal away Angelica, and by counterfeiting the King's Letter, they both got admittance into the Golden Tower, and by it Parismenos was appointed, as a trusty Knight in whom the King had great Fidelity, Captain of the Guard, till his coming, or further Orders; the King's Signet was so artificially affixed to this Letter of Credence, that it passed all Scruple; so that behaving himself liberally and courteously, he soon gained all their loves, as likewise the Eunuch's, who kept the Door of the Lady's Chamber; and by that means got an opportunity to speak with her, by the help of Anna, Ten Maid, who, ever joyed at the sight of him, could scarce be kept from Swooning in his Arms; but the time being short, and a discovery being made, might bring them in worse danger than ever; it was agreed, that Night, that he and Marcellus should convey her in one of the Eunuch's Apparel, which he had bribed to his interest, out

of

of the Castle, which he might the better do, by reason he kept the Key of the Out-Gates every night: To be brief, they made as happy a escape as Lovers could wish, had the Destinies consented; but, alas! woe, misery ensued. Those Eunuchs that were not privy to the design, fearing their Lives, made known her escape to the King, before they could get out of his reach, with the means, as far as they could guess, by which it was brought about; which made him haste to the Golden Tower, from his City of Ephesus, and send out his Guards everywhere to apprehend her; and such a confusion there was, that both Court and Country seemed to be in an Uproar; the King stormed, and the Queen wept, especially when she knew her Son Marcellus had carried with him Dulcia, a Lady of the Court, of a mean Fortune, whom he had a long time courted, in order to make her a Princess and Queen, after the Death of his Father: Many days they sought, but no news could be had of them; for they shelter'd the Ladies in the Hermit's Cell; and their own disguise was such as they could not be easily discovered, having changed Armour with some Gerulian Knights, who were

their

their Friends; and so hoping, when the search was over, they might get safely into Bohemia; but the Cell being very close, and the Weather sultery, Angelica grew faint, so that in the evening, Parismenos ventured to lead her out in a back walk, covered with pleasant shades, to refresh her in the cooler Air; but at length sitting down on a bank of Flowers, and wishing for a speedy escape thence, one of the Eunuchs, who had fled the King's Anger to save his Life, lying pensive in a Thicket, overheard their Discourse, and knowing their voices, watched them back to the Cell, and to get into Favour again, immediately run and told the King, who made no delay to arm his Knights and Nobles, and immediately surrounded the Cell, commanding all within to come out on pain of Death; upon this, Angelica and Dulcia trembled exceedingly; but Parismenos, grasping his Sword, defended the Passage till he had slain twenty Knights, who pressed on, and had made greater slaughter, if Marcellus had not perswaded him to yield, seeing there was no hope to overcome so many.

Having, hereupon, delivered up his Sword to the King, and asked his Pardon,

pon, owning of his love to Angelica, and declaring who he was by Birth; he was immediately made Prisoner, loaded with Bolts and Chains, and cast into a deep dark Dungeon: Angelica was stript of her Royal Ornaments, cast into a filthy Prison, with Anna her Maid; and Marcellus banished, whilst Parismenos, or the Knight of Fame, lay every hour expecting his Death; he at last thought of a way to free himself from the misery he endured, which he did, by feigning himself a dying, and enticing the Goaler to free him, upon promise of great Rewards in hand, and the discovery of an infinite Treasure, he had hid in the fields; when immediatly assailing him with one of the Iron-bolts, he got off of his Legs, and he making a resistance, fell by a blow Parismenos gave him; who, thereupon took the Keys, and unlocked his Irons, getting out of the Dungeon, and shutting the Door.

Being thus at liberty, he thought it not convenient to stay in the Court, hearing his Death was absolutely decreed in a few days; whereupon he hasted to the Fields, escaping disguised in the Goaler's Habit, and within a few miles found the Plains covered with armed

Men, which he knew to be Bohemians, which made him greatly wonder; and therefore addressing himself to their General, he found him to be Pollipus, and therefore, the boldlier demanded the cause of their coming; who boldly told him, it was to rescue Parismenos from Captivity, and that Parismus, having notice of what had happened by the Hermet, had sent him with those Troops to vindicate his Honour, and make the King of Natolia do him reason, in giving him his Daughter in Marriage. Upon this he discovered himself, to the great joy of Pollipus, and told him all the Circumstances, and by what means he had escaped from his dismal Dungeon; and so mounting among the other Knights, they concluded to send defiance to Maximus, and march to the Walls of Ephesus; whereupon he issued forth with a mighty Army, which the Bohemians, in a bloody Battle, cut almost all to pieces; Parismenos and Pollipus doing Wonders in the Fight, cutting their way through whole Squadrons, till they were stopped by the heaps of dead Bodies they had slain. So that Maximus finding himself too weak to resist their Courage, sent to the Kings of Lybia and Barbary to come to his Assistance,

stance; the former of which came in Person to be revenged on the Knight of Fame, for the Injury he supposed he had done Venola his Daughter, bringing with him fifty thousand Men; and the King of Barbary sent a hundred thousand, under Santo de Lodoro, his Son; so that all, the Plains were covered with armed Powers: but before they joyned Battle Parismus luckily came with fifty thousand Bohemians and Thessalians, and in a second bloody Fight overthrew them with incredible slaughter; so that they beat a Parley of Truce for a day, in which time Maximus came out of the City, attended by the Lybian King, the Prince of Barbary, and divers others, who demanding of Parismus, what the reason was he invaded his Country? Who told him, for the injury he had done his Son; and therefore demanded, that he would deliver his Daughter to him, or vowed not to depart till he had taken the City, and compelled him to do Reason. To this he gave only a slight Answer, telling him, His Threats were but vain, for he should rather die with himself, and all his People, than it should be done; and so returned to the City.

CHAP. VIII.

How **Maximus** King of **Natolia**, enraged at his Losses, and thinking **Parismenos** still in Prison, condemned him, without hearing, to be burnt alive, but was deceived, finding the Goaler dead in the Dungeon; of the pitious Cries and Laments of **Angelica** and **Mercellus**, and the Violence they offered to themselves; how the City of **Ephesus** was stormed and taken by the **Bohemians**, with the miserable Death of **Maximus**; and how **Angelica** was stolen from the Temple of **Hymen**, and by what means recovered, and at last happily Married to Prince **Parismenos**, the **Knight of Fame**, &c.

MAximus, much inraged at the Demands of Parismus, immediately called a Counsel of his Nobles, to consider what was to be done; who advised him, the better to satisfie the People, and compose Differences, to recal his Son from Banishment, and let the Princess and Parismenos at liberty; the two first, with some difficulty, he consented to, but as to the latter, he utterly refused it, being incited by the King of Lydia to revenge; and so hotly he pursued it,

it, that knowing nothing of Parismenos's escape, he caused him to be judged and condemned for Ravishment, without being cited or heard, as a Ravisher of a Royal Daughter, and to be doomed for it to the Flames; immediately sending to the Prison to fetch him; but instead of him, they brought the Goaler in a Herse, who died of his wounds in the Dungeon; but, however, the King would have his Body burnt to finish the Sentence.

The fair Angelica hearing of this dismal intended Tragedy, and knowing nothing of Parismenos's escape, resolved to make one in it, and burnt herself with him in the Flames; therefore, with a dagger in her hand, she forced her way through her Maids, who fearing she would injure her precious Life, laboured to restrain her fury; and running to the Funeral-pile, with her hair tore, and her beautious face defiled with tears and blood, she searched for him; but finding he was not there, addressed herself to the King in a pitious manner, to beg Pardon for her Lover, telling him her Life was bound up with his, and that she would by no means out-live him. Whereupon, without regarding her pi-

tious moan, he ordered her to be seized; but she, clapping a Dagger to her panting breasts, vowed to stab herself, if any one approached to lay hold on her; reviling him as a cruel Tyrant, for taking away the Life of the most loyal, vertuous and valiant Knights in the World, with many other expressions full of Grief and Indignation. In the mean while Marcellus, came with his drawn Sword, as one distracted, and seeing her in that condition, embraced her tenderly, saying, Now, my dear Angelica, I see thou art worthy of this poor Prince's Love, whom they have cruelly slain in Prison, fearing he should be rescued, no doubt, if they brought him to the Stake alive. Take courage then, my dear Sister, and with me kill thyself at his Herse; so shall our Names of Love and true Friendship be as lasting as the World, and build us Monuments of Fame and Glory to all Posterity. Ah! my dear Brother, said she, I had done it alone, but now I will be more noble in your company; come, let us die together, since my cruel Father thought him not worthy of Life, for whom I only have lived thus long.

Thus desperately bent, they went to view the dead Body, that they might have a sight of him e'er they follow'd him into

into the other World; but earnestly looking on the gaudy Village, they found it was not he; this gave some comfort to their distracted minds, and made them hope the King had only put this Tryal upon them, to discover their Affections to the Knight of Fame, and that it might be the Body of some Knight slain in the Battle, so that they desisted from the violence they intended, and went towards the place where Maximus, the King of Lybia, and the Moorish Prince sat to see the Body burned, to make further Intercession: but in the mean while, a Knight, all bloudy, and almost breathless, came riding up, parting the Croud on either side, and bowing low to Maximus, said, Mighty Monarch, and you the Nobles, haste to the Field before the day be utterly lost; the Enemy are Victors in three Battles over your Army, whose courage faints for want of their General's Presence.

This News, and the Cries that were made at a distance, made them abruptly break up the Assembly, arm, mount, and immediately hasten to the Field, where they found all their Squadrons in rout and disorder, fearfully flying, and miserably slaughtered by the Pursuers: so that they laboured in vain to make 'em

rally; in the mean while the Pursuers, seizing the Gates of the City of Ephesus, entered pell-mell with the Flyers, the two Kings being the formost that entered, when they saw their Men would not stand the Fight; however, being within the Walls of the City, the fearful Cries of the Ladies, their Wives and Children, &c. made them renew a desperate Fight, in a broad Square before the Palace; and though Parismenos, who had been so much injured by Maximus, yet, in respect he was Angelica's Father, laboured all he could to save him, whilst in a desperate manner he thrust himself into the midst of the Throng, he could not do it, for, being beaten down by a Bohemian Knight, who knew him not, he miserably perished, being trampled to pieces under the Horses feet; and so the Prophecy at his Daughter's birth was fulfilled by his Rashness and Folly, the which by his Prudence might have been avoided. Upon this, the King of Lybia fled with his broken Troops out at the Posterns of the City, returning into his own Country with Shame, and the loss of thirty thousand Men.

The City being thus won, the Souldiers were commanded to spare both the Lives

Lives and Goods of the Citizens; and Parismenos hasted to the Palace to secure his dear Angelica from any Violence that might happen to her in such a distracted time; at the entrance of which he found Mercellus with his Sword drawn, and a strong Guard, to secure it; but he no sooner made himself known, but, throwing down his Sword, Mercellus embraced him, crying, Ah! my dear Brother, to what wonderful Providence do we owe your Life, whose Death, only reported, has caused such Sorrow in me and my Sister. Hereupon Parismenos told him all that had befel him; so that with much joy they went to Angelica's Chamber; who, at the sight of her dear Knight, fancying it could be no other than his Ghost, had like to have swouned away; but he imbracing her tenderly, and making her see it was he himself, and no shadow, so weeping they each other a while, they recounted the Hardships they had endured; and now began to consider that Heaven smiled on them to make them amends for their Sufferings. Yet the fair Angelica was much concerned when she heard her Father was dead; but Parismenos shewing her it was his own Rashness brought him to that untimely end, and how he,

for

for her sake, had laboured to save him, who had been his mortal Enemy, she was better comforted. And in a great Assembly of the Estates, Mercellus was appointed King instead of his Father; and afterwards married the Lady Dulcia, who had suffered so many Hardships for him, living happily with her all his days.

And now, the Court being full of Nobility, by the arrival of Camillus, the King of Thrace, and divers others who had brought Armies to right the Injuries of Parisienos, great Preparations, by the Consent of all, were made for his Marriage with the fair Princess Angelica, whom they allowed so worthily to have deserved her; but, as the Custom of the Country was, she, going to Hymen's Temple to offer Sacrifice, very slenderly guarded, was taken thence by Irus King of Tunis, but rescued from him, on his way to his own Country, by Iconius, a banished Duke of Natolia, who lived in a Desert-cave.

This unexpected Mis-fortune caused great grief, and much search was made for her a long time, but in vain, whilst Irus, making Friendship with Iconius, had often opportunities to visit her, but one

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proved a fatal one, for in Iconius's absence, going to ravish her, Anna her Maid killed him with his own Dagger, and dragged his body into a Pit, covering it over with Stones: During this, Iconius had met with Parismenos, on the edge of the Forest, who was still in pursuit of his fair Princess; and, after a sharp Contest between them, they agreed as Friends, and Iconius invited him unto his Cave; when entering in, and seeing the track of Irus's blood, and going to the Pit, and finding him there dead, he charged the Murther upon Anna, who boldly confessed it, telling him for what reason she had done it; whereupon, in a rage, he drew his Sword, wrapped his hand in her hair, and offered to kill her: But Parismenos stopped his hand, desiring him, as all Knights ought, to be more gentle to a Damosel; for certainly her tender heart could not do so cruel a Deed without a great Provocation; but he persisting in his fury, Parismenos forced her loose from him, and told him, if he would kill her, he should make his way through him to her heart; Whereupon a fierce Combat began between them, in which the Prince was Conqueror, laying his Enemy at his feet, who, begging mercy, had his

life

life ſpared: upon which, Pariſmenos lifting up his Helmet, Anna no ſooner eſpied him by the twilight that entered into the Cave, but running to him with open arms, ſaying, O my dear Lord; and thereupon imbraced him: he thought he knew her face, but by her voice he was perfectly convinced it was the Princeſs Angelica's Maid, and thereupon his heart leaped for joy, in hopes, ſhe being taken Priſoner with her, her Miſtreſs was not far off; which ſhe ſoon confirmed him in, telling all the ſtory from their firſt being taken from the Temple to that time; whereupon haſting by her directions, into a melancholly Retirement within the Cave, he found his diſconſolate Princeſs; who ſuppoſing him to be Iconius returned, (for ſhe was there ſo cloſe that ſhe had heard nothing of the Combat,) ſhe intreated him to take her life, rather than keep her in ſuch melancholly ſadneſs for the want of her dear Lord Pariſmenos; and ſo went on to expreſs the kind Affection ſhe had for him; which did not a little overjoy him, but when floods of tears burſt from her fair eyes, he could no longer conceal himſelf; his ſight, ſo unexpected, was to her as the appearance of an Angel, ſhe dried up her tears, and embra-

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red him tenderly; and, telling him some good Offices Iconius had done her, he took at last pity of him, and caused Anna to unlace his Helmet to give him free air, and dress his wounds, so that in a short time he recovered, and thereupon they prepared to depart to Bohemia, and concluded it the safest way to pass by Sea, seeing there were so many Forrests and dangerous Places to go through, if they went by Land.

Iconius no sooner knew this, but he proffered to go with them, and get safe Passage, bargaining with one Theorotus, a Merchant, to carry them into Germany; but, by the way, being bribed by a Sclavonian Knight, (who had beheld the excellent Beauty of the Princess Angelica, and was a Passenger in the Ship,) to carry them to his Country, where he thought, by force, or perswasion, to gain the Lady to his lust. But being on the Coast of that Country, the angry Heavens began to frown at such Treachery, so that a mighty Tempest swelling the Seas, the Ship was driven on a Rock, and broke to pieces; but Providence so ordered it, that Parismenos and Angelica, floating on a broken part of the Ship, were taken up by a Fisherman, and landed in Thessaly, where,

where, having News that Parismus and Laurana were then at the Thessalian Court, they repaired thither, and were highly welcomed by them, and King Dionysius, their Grandfather; Feasting held many days, and the general Joy spread wide every-where: And now concluding that there was an end of their many Crosses and Sorrows, by the general Consent of all they were Married, with all imaginable Pomp and Royalty, Feasting being held forty days; and many brave Encounters in Justing happened, wherein the Princely Bridegroom exceeded all other Knights in Valour, as much as his Royal Bride did all the other Ladies in Beauty and the excellent Adornment of her Mind. And so all their days they lived in great Joy and Felicity, enjoying, after their Grandfather's death, the Thessalian Crown, leaving only a Son and Daughter behind them, whose Fame has since filled the World with Wonder and Esteem.

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